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International Court of Justice

H3382 - 0002

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF COUNSEL FOR WAR CRIMES

EVIDENCE DIVISION

Date : 21 July 1948

I certify that Document Number 3845-PS was introduced into evidence as Exhibit Number USA - 795 in the Trial by the International Military Tribunal of Hermann GOERING, et al, which commenced on 20 November 1945, and that the attached photostat is a true and correct copy of the original.

Fred Niebergall

Fred NIEBERGALL
Chief, Document
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that the annexed document 3845-PS No. USA - 495 is a photostat of an original document submitted in evidence by the United States Prosecution under this number. The original document has been withdrawn in accordance with Rule 10 of the International Military Tribunal, and to the best of my knowledge and belief is to be held at the National Archives, Washington D.C. .

Nuremberg, 9 July 1948

Paul Joosten

PAUL A. JOOSTEN

General Secretary
International Military
Tribunal

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3845-PS

WCIT #6836
US Army

Alleged Occurrence: Murder of American and British Prisoners of War on or about 24 January 1945

Date:

At: MAUTHAUSEN Concentration-Camp AUSTRIA

I N T E R R O G A T I O N

Authority: Par 21, SO 146, Hq ETOUSA, dtd 26 May 45; Organization order #270, Hq ETOUSA dtd 24 Apr 45, AG 322, OpGC.

Par 8, SO 113, Hq USFA, dtd 27 Nov 1945

Oaths: The persons hereinafter named, as reporter, interpreter, witness, appeared before the Investigator-Examiner and each was duly sworn by him in the following respective form:

OATH ADMINISTERED TO REPORTER

"You swear that you will faithfully perform the duties of reporter in this investigation now being conducted by me, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

OATH ADMINISTERED TO INTERPRETER

"You swear that you will truthfully interpret in this investigation now being conducted by me, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

OATH ADMINISTERED TO WITNESS

"You swear that the evidence you shall give in this investigation now being conducted by me shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

Name of witness: ALBERT TIEFENBACHER

Date testimony taken: 7 Dec 1945

Place testimony taken: SALZBURG, AUSTRIA, Hq WCIT 6836

Investigator-Examiner: DAVID G PASTON (Name) Lt Col (Grade) O-189428 (ASN)

Asst Investigator Cross-Examiner: WILLIAM A GORDON (Name) Capt (Grade) O-115428 (ASN)

Reporter: DORIS GOERTZEN (Name) Civilian Court Reporter (Grade) (ASN)

Interpreter: LOUIS L CRCY (Name) Tec 4 (Grade) 46010206 (ASN)

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Session convened at 16,30 hours

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL
NURNBERG, GERMANY
USA Exhibit 795
April 13 Filed 1946

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Testimony of: LOUIS L CROY, Interpreter

Direct Examination by: Lt Col PASTON

1. Q. State your name, grade and U S Army serial number?
A. Louis L Croy, Technician Fourth Grade, 46010205.

2. Q. When and where were you born?
A. 16 April 1914, in Vienna, Austria.

3. Q. Did you speak German daily while you lived in Austria?
A. Yes.

4. Q. How long did you live in Austria?
A. Twenty five years.

5. Q. Then where did you go?
A. To the United States.

6. Q. What year?
A. 1939.

7. Q. Did you there learn to speak the English language?
A. Yes, by conversation and by going to the law school of the University of Wisconsin. I studied law at the University of Vienna, receiving a Doctor of Law degree in 1937.

8. Q. Did you practice law there?
A. I was court reporter in Vienna for one year, from March 2, 1937, to March 2, 1938. I worked six months in the Anglo-Elementar Insurance Company. I also worked for the law firm of my father for one year.

9. Q. Do you have a knowledge of English?
A. Yes.

10. Q. When you arrived in the United States did you take up the study of the English language?
A. Yes. I attended the University of Wisconsin.

11. Q. Did you graduate?
A. Yes. In June 1942.

12. Q. At the University of Wisconsin Law School only the English language was spoken, is that right?

13. Q. By completing the law course successfully, you demonstrated beyond any doubt your ability to handle the English language, is that right?
A. Yes, and I was duly admitted to practice law in the State of Wisconsin.

14. Q. You consider yourself a qualified interpreter in the English and German languages?
A. Yes.

15. Q. What are your present duties?
A. Pursuant to paragraph 26, SO 81, Headquarters USFET, APO 757, U S Army, dated 4 October 1945, I was assigned to War Crimes Investigating Team 6836 for the purpose of acting as interpreter of German into English and English into German.

ATTEST:

D G PASTON
Lt Col, O-189428
Investigator-Examiner

Louis L Croy

Louis Croy

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USFA WC - 28
(TIEFENBACHER)

Testimony of: Albert TIEFENBACHER

Direct Examination by: Lt. Col. PASTON

Q. What is your name?
A. Albert TIEFENBACHER.

Q. Where were you born?
A. In SALZBURG, Billweinstrasse 15.

Q. Were you arrested by the Nazis?
A. Yes.

Q. When?
A. 14 June 1938.

Q. Why?
A. In June 1934 I participated in the fight against the Nazi insurrection and at the plebescite in April 1938, one of the canvassers recognized my name. I did not, however, vote at this plebescite.

Q. Who arrested you?
A. Two Gestapo men.

Q. Their names?
A. I do not know. They were German nationals.

Q. Where did they take you?
A. Police Jail. They arrested me with the words: "We just want a little information from you, you will be able to return immediately." They told me that I would be confronted with a woman, but this woman never came and I was taken to DACHAU with the next transport.

Q. How long after you were arrested were you sent to DACHAU ?
A. Two or three days.

Q. Did you have a trial?
A. Before.

Q. You mean before you were sent to DACHAU ?
A. Before I was arrested.

Q. How long before?
A. In 1936.

Q. What was the trial about?
A. Larceny.

Q. Were you guilty?
A. I was convicted in spite of being innocent.

Q. Did you have witnesses?
A. No, they did not believe my witnesses.

Q. Did they say why they did not believe your witnesses?
A. They said that they were all good friends of mine.

A.T.

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USFA WC - 28
(TIEFENBACHER)

Q. Were there any witnesses against you?
A. Yes, the people from my former place of work.

Q. What did they testify against you?
A. They testified that I had the intention of stealing from a drawer.

Q. They did not testify that you actually stole?
A. No, I was only convicted for attempted larceny.

Q. What was the sentence?
A. 6 months.

Q. Did you start serving it immediately?
A. No.

Q. Why not ?
A. I was working at the time.

Q. When did you start serving that sentence?
A. In LINZ in 1939.

Q. You went to DACHAU in 1938?
A. Yes.

Q. How long did you stay there?
A. 3 weeks.

Q. Then where did you go?
A. MAUTHAUSEN.

Q. How long did you remain in MAUTHAUSEN?
A. Until 1945.

Q. You told us a while ago, that the Gestapo arrested you in 1938?
A. Yes. I was transferred from the concentration camp in MAUTHAUSEN to LINZ about September 1939.

Q. How long did you stay in LINZ?
A. Until after Christmas 1939, and then I was returned to MAUTHAUSEN.

Q. So that outside of the period from September 1939 until after Christmas 1939, you were at MAUTHAUSEN concentration camp from 1938 until May 1945?
A. Yes.

Q. Did you see anybody kill anybody else?
A. Yes.

Q. Give us the names and the dates of those who did the killings and those who were killed?
A. I was employed in the crematorium in MAUTHAUSEN for 3 years as carrier of the dead bodies.

Q. Did you go back to MAUTHAUSEN in January 1940?
A. I returned at Christmas 1939 before the expiration of my term. I was told that I was pardoned for the balance of my term.

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USFA WC - 28
(TIEFENBACHER)

Q. What job were you given when you arrived at MAUTHAUSEN ?
A. When I returned I had water in my legs (dropsy) and I got a rest for 8 days until January 1940.

Q. Then what job did you have?
A. At the hospital they said they needed a strongcarrier for the bodies.

Q. Who told you?
A. The Kapo.

Q. What was his name?
A. I cannot remember the name of the Kapo. He was from Vienna and he introduced me to Dr KREBS and suggested me for this job.

Q. Did you have a talk with Dr KREBS?
A. He just looked at me and said that I should begin to-morrow.

Q. Then what happened?
A. There were four carriers of bodies. We had to carry the bodies of people who had died at the barracks or who had died at the chain of guards or who had been torn by the dogs. Ordinarily the bodies were sent to LINZ or STEYR for cremation.

Q. Go ahead.
A. Then the bodies lay in state for inspection by their relatives. KRAMER, the adjutant, always accompanied the relatives at these inspections and told these people that the deceased was a very good worker, but that he had refused to eat.

Q. Was not ZUTTER the adjutant at this time?
A. No, KRAMER, ZUTTER was his successor.KRAMER went to a sub-camp at AUSCHWITZ in 1942 or 1943 and ZUTTER became adjutant.

Q. Who else worked with you in the crematorium?
A. A certain KANDUTH, Johann; POLSTER, Johann; SUSOK, Franz.

Q. Where did SUSOK come from?
A. From RATIBOR. POLSTER is from Lower Austria, near SIEGMUNDSHERRBERG. Later on Ignaz SCHAPOWSKI and THATEK, two Poles came from Poland.

Q. Who else?
A. Then towards the end, we carriers of the dead were relieved by Jews.

Q. When were you relieved?
A. August 1944.

Q. And what were the names of the Jews who relieved you?
A. Two survivors are in LINZ. The name of one was Willy and the other was a tall dark man who is with KANDUTH in LINZ. KANDUTH's address here in SALZBURG is Kleingmain, Soloristrasse 13.

Q. Who else?
A. A certain Leo..... a teacher from Poland. He was transferred to Poland and was indicted for attempted high treason.

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USFA WC - 28
(TIEFENBACHER)

Q. Who else?
A. I did not meet anybody else in the crematorium.

Q. Did you know ORNSTEIN?
A. Oh yes, ORNSTEIN is a tall dark fellow who lives with KANDUTH in LINZ.

Q. Did ORNSTEIN also work in the crematorium?
A. Yes.

Q. Can you remember anybody else?
A. There were carriers of the dead, who carried the bodies from the hospital to the crematorium.

Q. Do you know their names?
A. No, because they were changed continuously. That was customary in the camp, to prevent anybody from getting an inside picture.

Q. After you left in August 1944, what job did you get?
A. I worked in the disinfection departement.

Q. Were the Nazis afraid that you might tell what you had seen in the crematorium?
A. Yes, they also told us that we would never leave the camp alive. We carried the bodies of people who had been strangled, or hung, or torn by dogs. I believe a man from SALZBURG of the name of NIEDERMAYER, was in charge of the cell-block.

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Q. What did you see that NIEDERMAYER did?
A. Strangle them with cord until they died.

Q. When was that?
A. In 1943. The room above the crematorium was connected with the crematorium by a man-hole plate. I could hear every word spoken in the room above through this man-hole plate and I could listen to all the interrogations in the room above.

Q. I want you to tell us the date when you saw NIEDERMAYER strangle somebody to death.
A. The name of the victim was MATACHAS, a Vienese, as well as a Czech and a German named ZIERLICH. I have already made a statement to SANNER, an inmate of MAUTHAUSEN, who took charge of the cell-block after the liberation by the Americans.

Q. When did NIEDERMAYER strangle these people?
A. August or September 1943.

Q. Just what did you see NIEDERMAYER do?
A. On this occasion we saw and heard from the window.

Q. How do you know that it was NIEDERMAYER'S voice?
A. Because nobody was allowed to enter the cell-block except we two carriers of bodies.

Q. HOW do you know that it was NIEDERMAYER'S voice?
A. Because we heard every word so clearly.

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USFA WC - 28
(TIEFENBACHER)

Q. Had you spoken to him many times before then?
A. Yes, he was a country-man of mine from SALZBURG.

Q. Did you know him before you went to MAUTHAUSEN?
A. No, but I knew his parents.

Q. Before you saw him strangle somebody to death at MAUTHAUSEN, had you spoken to him many times?
A. Yes.

Q. Did you see anybody else kill anybody in MAUTHAUSEN?
A. Yes, I remember the block leader FARGASCH who beat to death one of a group of American parachuters who came with their parachutes unter their arms. They had to line up against the wall.

Q. Did you speak to NIEDERMAYER many times after the incident where he strangled the man to death?
A. Yes.

Q. So that there is no question in your mind that the man you heard at the time of the strangulation was NIEDERMAYER?
A. No, I even witnessed the mistreatments through the window.

Q. On this particular occasion, besides hearing NIEDERMAYER'S voice, did you also see something through the window?
A. I remember having taken off the corpses, wires which were used for strangling people.

Q. You heard NIEDERMAYER'S voice?
A. Yes.

Q. What did he say?
A. "Dog, don't you want to strangle yourself, your time is up anyway, you have got to die".

Q. What else did he say?
A. Then I heard the victim being kicked and beaten. He acted like a mad-man.

Q. Who acted mad?
A. NIEDERMAYER.

Q. How do you know it was NIEDERMAYER who kicked the prisoner?
A. I heard it distinctly, I recognized NIEDERMAYER'S tread.

Q. Did you see any part of it?
A. I saw how he beat and kicked people in the corridor on this occasion.

Q. Did you see the way he strangled these people?
A. No, he went out of sight with the victims, but two hours later, this man was dead and I had to go and fetch him.

Q. How many men were the victims on this occasion?
A. Five,

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USFA WC - 28
(TIEFENBACHER)

Q. Did NIEDERMAYER kill all five?
A. In co-operation with ZIEREIS, STRAUSS and BACHMAYER.

A. T. (Lieutenant 344.)

Q. Maybe ZIEREIS, BACHMAYER or STRAUSS did the killings and not NIEDERMAYER.
A. NIEDERMAYER brought himself to the fore very diligently.

Q. On this particular occasion, there is no doubt that 5 people were strangled to death?
A. No doubt at all.

Q. I want to know for certain just what NIEDERMAYER contributed towards causing the death of these five people?
A. Each of them were given 5 minutes to consider if they would hang themselves and were given a rope. Then they were ordered to lie down on a bunk. I only heard then how this bunk was shoved away and I heard the sound of the impact of the heels at the kicking. Later on I heard the group leave the building. ZIEREIS said to NIEDERMAYER: "Come with us to the canteen and get as much to drink as you want, you did a good job".

Q. Did ZIEREIS say to NIEDERMAYER: "you did a good job"?
A. Yes.

Q. How did you know that NIEDERMAYER actually killed any of these five and not ZIEREIS, BACHMAYER or STRAUSS?
A. It was his job to get rid of those who were in the cell-block.

Q. Outside of it being his job and outside of what ZIEREIS said, how do you know it was NIEDERMAYER who actually killed any of these five people?
A. Because I saw how he mistreated other people.

Q. Can you tell us of a single instance that you personally saw NIEDERMAYER kill anybody?
A. I saw at the executions of Russians, who were killed by shots in their necks, how NIEDERMAYER killed these people.

Q. Where were you standing when you saw it?
A. There is a bullseye in the door of the refrigerator room and from this bulls-eye I could see the victim and two feet behind the victim, I could see NIEDERMAYER and ROTH kill them.

Q. About how many people did you see NIEDERMAYER kill?
A. NIEDERMAYER was usually present at all executions.

Q. About how many people did you see NIEDERMAYER kill?
A. As far as I can judge, at least 200.

Q. Who were these people?
A. Russian officers, Poles, Czechs, Jugoslavians.

Q. Why were they killed?
A. Because they had fought as partisans and they were captured as P/Ws.

Q. Did any of them receive a trial?
A. No.

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USFA WC - 28
(TIEFENBACHER)

Q. Over what period of time did you see NIEDERMAYER kill at least 200 persons?

A. Within the period of my work as carrier of the dead.

Q. Did you see ALTFULDISH?
A. Yes.

Q. Did you see ALTFULDISCH kill anybody?
A. No, I do not know what ALTFULDISCH did, he was always a very quiet man.

Q. Did you ever see the adjutant ZUTTER kill anybody?
A. No.

Q. Tell us anything else you personally saw where people were killed, giving us the dates as near as possible, and the names of the person who did the killings, and if you know them, the names of the victims ?
A. ZIEREIS. If ZIEREIS was in a good mood, he took the rifle away from a bad marksman and did the shootings himself. In the year 1942-1943 a transport of 300 persons arrived, who were all executed. I remember how the victims were lined up in four rows to be shot. On this occasion, ZIEREIS fired at least 10 shots. Sometimes the prisoners begged for their lives, because they pleaded that they were innocent, then ZIEREIS personally ordered them to be given 25 lashes before they were shot. I heard how ZIEREIS said to the guards, referring to the Dutch Jews: "If these people carry the stones too slowly, throw them over the edge and kill them". I also heard how he ordered the doctors to get rid of their sick by injections, if there were too many sick.

Q. Which doctors?
A. Dr RICHTER, KREBSBOCK, HERBST, RACHE, WOLTER.

Q. Did the doctors do it?
A. Yes.

Q. How do you know?
A. Because we had to take the victims from the table into the next room.

Q. From the table in what room?
A. From the dressing room.

Q. Into what room?
A. Into an adjacent room, which was used as sterilizing room.

Q. And what happened in this latter room?
A. There they remained, because the next victim was called in under the pretence that he would get a physical examination.

Q. And then?
A. And so on, one after another until the 20 or 30 who were on the list had been executed. Those on the list were mostly people who were sick and too weak to work.

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USFA WC - 28
(TIEFENBACHER)

Q. What was their sickness?
A. Malnutrition and general run-down condition, as well as TB.

Q. How do you know that they were injected?
A. Because I saw it often enough. I saw how they were given a narcotic.

Q. Who did the injections?
A. Dr WOLTER gave the orders, which were executed by SS medics.

Q. Did you see WOLTER give the orders?
A. Yes.

Q. When?
A. 1942.

Q. To whom did he give the order?
A. To Dr Richter.

Q. Who else?
A. To the medics who were on duty. Dr WOLTER said: "It is better that these people who are incurably diseased with TB should die a beautiful death".

Q. Did you then actually see the injections made?
A. Yes. He counted three ribs from the top down and used a long needle for an injection into the heart.

Q. Who counted the three ribs?
A. The doctor or the medic.

Q. How long after the injection was made did it take for the victim to die?
A. Usually one and a half minutes, it was very quick, because the injection was made direct into the heart.

Q. Why were some injected, some shot and some strangled with a rope?
A. I do not know. They wanted to get rid of these people and make room for more.

Q. Were the bodies then burnt?
A. Yes.

Q. Now that you have told us about ZIEREIS and Dr WOLTER, tell us about some of the others.
A. Dr RACHEL and Dr HERBST liked to operate.

Q. Did they operate to cure people of their sickness?
A. These doctors had to learn how to operate from Dr POTDLAHA.

Q. Were these doctors engaged in curing people or killing people?
A. Dr POTDLAHA tried his utmost to save people and did save the lives of many. Other doctors learned from him and they experimented on other prisoners.

Q. While they experimented on other prisoners, were they interested in saving them?
A. No, mostly to kill.

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Q. Out of every 100 prisoners who were operated on, how many would you say were saved and how many killed?
A. Most of the people who were operated upon by Dr POTDLAHA recovered, but on other occasions, Dr POTDLAHA was sent away while the SS doctors operated and in these cases, the people mostly died.

Q. Which SS doctors?
A. Dr HERBST, Dr RACHEL, Dr RICHTER. Dr RICHTER liked especially to operate and dissect the corpses after, in order to see the effect of the poison.

Q. How about Dr WOLTER?
A. Dr WOLTER usually gave the order and then went out.

Q. Did WOLTER know that these doctors were killing people?
A. He was the head doctor, so he must have known it.

Q. Were you present at any of these operations?
A. No, but at the dissections.

Q. How do you know what the purpose of the dissections was?
A. In order to find the cause of death and how death entered.

Q. How do you know that that was the purpose?
A. Because I was present and helped in dissecting. I had to pass the instruments.

Q. Did you hear the doctors talk?
A. Yes, they spoke German.

Q. What did they say?
A. They mentioned the reasons of death, such as, paralysis of the heart, paralysis of the neck, congealing of blood. They also used the names of the poison in Latin.

Q. How could you understand that it was poison, when it was spoken in Latin?
A. Because they were the same names which were on the labels of the capsules which were thrown away by the doctors after application, and I asked one of the doctors and he told me.

Q. Which doctor?
A. The prisoner doctor.

Q. Which one?
A. SCHARBLINSKI.

Q. Were you present at the time they took a skull and sliced it in half and preserved it for their experimental purposes?
A. Hauptsturmfuehrer VASICKY, the pharmacist, was very much interested in these matters and made experiments with skulls and brains, and preserved them in methylated spirits. He had containers with methylated spirits. At the dissection, the skull was in any case cut in half. The scalp is severed from the skull which is thus uncovered, then the top of the skull is sawn off and thereby the inside of the head opened to view.

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Then they took out the brain and cut through, and they weighed it. Then they opened the chest, took out the lungs and compared them with the X-ray chart which had formerly been made, and saw how the injections of calcium had taken effect. Then they took out the tongue, held it in their hands and studied it. After that the liver etc was removed and studied for signs of cancer etc. Originally they had injected germs into healthy people and wanted to know the effects.

Q. Did they learn anything from all these experiments?
A. According to my judgment, all these doctors were incompetent.

Q. Had they learned anything as a result of these experiments?
A. On this occasion they learned. They said that this was cheap material.

Q. Did they learn the effects of the poison that had been injected?
A. Yes.

Q. What did they learn?
A. How the poison works and its consequences.

Q. If they injected people and the people died within a few moments, what more did they want to know about the poison?
A. In order to find the correct dose, they used a good many inoculation serums on the prisoners, before they were used on the troops.

Q. Why on the troops?
A. If they were good, they were used on the troops.

Q. How could it have been good, if the people died immediately?
A. Some of them recovered. They also tried out the effect on different blood groups, and of strong blood and weak blood. Some of these injections caused ulcers on the chest. These ulcers were then removed, cut into pieces and microscoped.

Q. Those persons who recovered, were they then allowed to live?
A. Those people who recovered were given especially good food, and after their recovery a blood test was taken, in order to judge the final effect of the serum.

Q. Before they were injected, did any of them volunteer to be injected?
A. They were not asked. People were just called at the discretion of the doctors.

Q. What discretion did the doctors use?
A. I do not know, because I had no insight into the books of the doctors.

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USFA WC - 28
(TIEFENBACHER)

Q. Having told us about ZIEREIS and the doctors, now tell us about somebody else?
A. The block leaders received three days' furlough and money premiums each time they killed a prisoner.

Q. Which block leaders?
A. I have written it all down and even have the signatures of the doctors.

Q. Where have you got this?
A. MARTIN, the manager of the Gas Works in INNSBRUCK was the scrivener at the hospital and he has exact notes about the prisoners who died a natural death and those who were killed.

Q. Is he in INNSBRUCK now?
A. Yes.

Q. Was he a prisoner, too?
A. Yes, he had to keep the books of the hospital.

Q. How do you know that he retained the books after the capitulation and after MAUTHAUSEN was liberated by the Americans?
A. He gave the Americans a statement, which took him three weeks to write.

Q. Whom else did you know?
A. I knew all of them. The doctors were changed around, to GUSEN, for instance.

Q. Did you know a prisoner named HANS DIETER?
A. There was a man from LINZ, who escaped by hiding in the sick barracks. He was scheduled to be shot.

Q. Did he come from Germany?
A. No, from LINZ. There were 35 men. They were all shot, only he escaped.

Q. Did you know a prisoner Richard DIETL?
A. I know of a man from LINZ, who had hidden himself.

Q. Then you were referring to DIETL and not DIETER?
A. I do not know exactly whether the name was DIETER or DIETL. DIETL came with a group of 63. They wanted to liquidate 35.

Q. Did you know SCHARRER?
A. His name sounds familiar to me, but we had very little contact with the prisoners, as we had to sleep in the block and had our food brought to us.

Q. Did you know ZELGER?
A. No.

Q. Did you know a Mrs. FUERTEL and her daughter?
A. There were Czech women gassed, but we did not get the list of their names. I did not have anything to do with the books.

Q. Do you remember the Gestapo man POETSCHER?
A. Yes, from LINZ Gestapo.

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USFA WC - 28
(TIEFENBACHER)

Q. Do you remember Karl SCHWALL in block 16?
A. What was he?

Q. A prisoner?
A. MAUTHAUSEN had 36 blocks and the prisoners were only called by numbers.

Q. Do you remember EIGRUBER?
A. EIGRUBER and KALTENBRUNNER were from LINZ.

Q. Did you ever see them in MAUTHAUSEN?
A. I saw KALTENBRUNNER very often.

Q. How many times?
A. He came from time to time and went through the crematorium.

Q. About how many times?
A. Three or four times.

Q. On any occasion when he came through, did you hear him say anything to anybody?
A. When KALTENBRUNNER arrived most prisoners had to disappear, only certain people were introduced to him.

Q. Did you hear KALTENBRUNNER say anything to ZIEREIS?
A. No, I was never so close to him. The carriers of the dead had do disappear when visitors were there, only the two firemen were allowed to remain in the crematorium.

Q. Do you remember WOLFRAM?
A. He was a medic.

Q. What do you know about him?
A. WOLFRAM gave many of the deadly injections to people.

Q. Do you remember ECKERMANN?
A. I know a block-leader ECKER.

Q. Do you remember the gas chamber camouflaged as a bath house?
A. Yes, we always helped to carry the dead from the gas chamber.

Q. There were no shower baths in the chamber?
A. Yes. Cold and warm water was supposed to come out of them, but the flow of the water could be regulated from the outside of the room and mostly the water was turned off. On the outside of the room was the gas reservoir and two gas pipes led from the outside into the room. There was a slot at the back and the gas emanated from this slot.

Q. Gas never came from the showers?
A. All the showers were plugged. It was just to make the effect that the prisoners were entering a bath-room.

Q. Was this gas chamber built by SS Hauptsturmfuehrer Dr KREBSBACH?
A. I do not know.

H3382 - 0017

A 096883 A.T.

H3382 – 0018

3845-PS
15

USFA WC - 28
(TIEFENBACHER)

Q. Do you remember a special car which was operated between MAUTHAUSEN and GUSEN, in which prisoners were gassed on the journey?
A. Yes, the commander personally went with this car. WASCKI put the gas into this car.

Q. How many people could be put into this car?
A. Twenty or thirty.

Q. Did this car belong to SS Untersturmfuehrer WASCHINSKI?
A. This car was just like a police car, only constructed air-tight.

Q. Did ZIEREIS drive this car?
A. Yes, I saw him myself.

Q. ZIEREIS himself drove the car, but he did not put the gas into the car?
A. The whole poison was in the hands of WASCHINSKI.

Q. But ZIEREIS knew that the prisoners were being gassed?
A. Yes, he usually gave the orders.

Q. The gassing of prisoners was due to the urging of SS KREBSBACH?
A. I think that they both were in agreement about it, since they were the best of friends. If there were too many people, they simply got rid of them.

Q. Do you remember the last 800 people who were killed by a club or through drowning?
A. Yes, I know how people were led into the gas chamber and hot and cold water applied on them, and then they had to line up and were beaten until they died.

Q. Do you remember the gassing of 640 prisoners in block 31 in GUSEN?
A. No, I was only in MAUTHAUSEN.

Q. Do you remember FLIEGEL (?) ?
A. I know them from MAUTHAUSEN, but I do not know what they did at GUSEN.

Q. Do you know LUESBERG?
A. LUESBERG was a known beater.

Q. Did he have anything to do with the gassing of 640 in block 31 at GUSEN?
A. I do not know.

Q. Do you know SEIDLER?
A. I knew a block leader SEIDLER of MAUTHAUSEN; he worked in the cell block. Then he went to duty in GUSEN.

Q. Do you know KILLERMANN? Roll-call leader?
A. No.

Q. Do you know JENSCH ?
A. He went to GUSEN, but I do not know anything about him.

A 096884

A.T.

USFA WC - 28
(TIEFENBACHER)

Q. Do you know anything about JENSCH murdering 700 prisoners in GUSEN by having them stand at a temperature of 12 degrees centigrade for one hour or more?
A. This was usual if a transport arrived. The sick got two or three hot baths and were chased into the open cold air.

Q. Do you remember KIESEWETTER, who murdered several hundred prisoners by injections of gasolene..... calcium sulphate and evipan?
A. He was at GUSEN, not at MAUTHAUSEN.

Q. Do you remember when Dr RICHTER was sent by ZIEREIS to a camp GUENSKIRCHEN?
A. RICHTER was declared insane. He once stood in front of a picture of the Fuehrer and said: "Everything is lost anyway", and he was declared insane and disappeared for two or three months and then he came back.

Q. Was Dr KREBSBACH ejected from the SS because he entered that organization under false pretenses?
A. I do not know.

Q. Did you ever see EIGRUBER in MAUTHAUSEN?
A. I think I saw him. The visitors were announced and the names, but I do not know whether they were these people.

Q. Did you ever see HIMMLER in MAUTHAUSEN?
A. Yes.

Q. Who was with him?
A. The whole staff.

Q. Was KALTENBRUNNER with him?
A. KALTENBRUNNER is a dark fellow, I know him from the crematorium, but I cannot say whether he was with HIMMLER. I remember HIMMLER by his monocle.

Q. Did you ever see SCHRACHASE there?
A. No.

H3382 - 0019

Session adjourned at 1830 hours

Albert Tiefenbacher
Albert TIEFENBACHER

ATTEST:
DAVID G PASTON
Lt Col QMC
Investigator-Examiner

I certify that the above testimony was translated to the witness in his own language, prior to his signature, which appears above.

Louis L. Croy
Louis L CROY
Tec 4 46010208
Interpreter

SECRET

3845-PS
17

WCIT #6836
US Army

Alleged Occurrence: Murder of American and British Prisoners of War

Date: On or about 24 January 1945

At: MAUTHAUSEN, Concentration Camp, AUSTRIA.

I N T E R R O G A T I O N

Authority: Par 21, SO 146, Hq ETOUSA, dtd 26 May 45; Organization order #270, Hq ETOUSA dtd 24 Apr 45, AG 322, OpGC.

Par. 8, SO 113, Hq USFA, dtd 27 November 1945

Oaths: The persons hereinafter named, as reporter, interpreter, witness, appeared before the Investigator-Examiner and each was duly sworn by him in the following respective form:

OATH ADMINISTERED TO REPORTER

"You swear that you will faithfully perform the duties of reporter in this investigation now being conducted by me, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

OATH ADMINISTERED TO INTERPRETER

"You swear that you will truthfully interpret in this investigation now being conducted by me, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

OATH ADMINISTERED TO WITNESS

"You swear that the evidence you shall give in this investigation now being conducted by me shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

3845-PS 17

Name of witness: Albert TIEFENBACHER

Date testimony taken: 10 December 1945

Place testimony taken: SALZBURG, AUSTRIA, Hq WCIT 6836

Investigator-Examiner: David G. PASTON (Name) Lt Col. (Grade) O - 189428 (ASN)

Asst Investigator Cross-Examiner: William A. GORDEN (Name) Capt (Grade) O-115408 (ASN)

Reporter: Johanna SUESS (Name) Civilian Court Reporter (Grade) (ASN)

Interpreter: Friedrich SCHMIDT (Name) Civilian Interpreter (Grade) (ASN)

TESTIMONY OF: _____

Direct examination by:

Session convened at: 1000 hours.

A 096836

SECRET

AGPO 8-45/2500/C2176ABCD

H3382 - 0020

H3382 -0021

3845-PS
18

Testimony of: FRIEDRICH SCHMIDT, Interpreter.

Direct examination by: Lt Col PASTON.

Q: When and where were you born ?
A: 10 April, 1911 in ORASNA BRESNA (Czechoslovakia).

Q: How long did you live in Czechoslovakia ?
A: Seventeen years. The rest of my life I lived in foreign countries: Switzerland, Australia, USA, and Germany.

Q: In these foreign countries did you have occasion to speak the German and English languages ?
A: Yes. Up to the age of fourteen, I visited German Schools in Czechoslovakia. In Switzerland, I studied the French language in a College of Christian Brothers. In Australia and USA, I conversed in English.

Q: Did you have occasion to talk over a period of many years with people in German, English and French ?
A: Yes.

Q: Did you experience any difficulty in interpreting in English, German, French and Russian ?
A: No.

Q: Have you had any experience in acting as interpreter in the English, German, French and Russian languages ?
A: Yes, I was interpreter for French and English at the Airport in MUNICH, interpreter for Russian and German in Russia for the German Wehrmacht. Furthermore, I acted as an interpreter-receptionist in different hotels. After the surrender, in April 1945, near MIESBACH (MUNICH) I acted as interpreter for the 101 Airborne Division, Military Police Headquarters, Provost Marshal at BERCHTESGADEN and BADGASTEIN until September 1945.

Friedrich S C H M I D T

ATTEST:
D G PASTON
Lt Col O-189428
Investigator-Examiner.

A 196887

Q. Did you make notes of anything which you want to tell us about?
A. I have only made short notes.

Q. Please tell us all you know?
A. What I know is this: I have noted the names of the two physicians which I had forgotten at the last meeting. They are: Dr BEMICHEN and Dr HEIM.

Q. Go ahead.
A. They both liked to operate and inject and bring themselves to the fore. Principally they gave injections with Evipan, gasoline and Formalin.

Q. Tell us the whole story.
A. Both physicians liked to kill persons suffering from tuberculosis, by means of injections. That was the so-called discharge into the beyond and not into liberty. "Arbeit macht frei." They also sent 45 persons suffering from TB and gangrene into the forest to gather wood and berries. But the forest was surrounded by SS-constables with machine guns. The sick persons were led in, the leader retired, and then the machine guns were put into action until all 45 lay dead on the ground. This was in July 1943.
Q. Can you tell us some names?
A. Amongst others, the following names: MUELLER, TRUM, WEISE, STEIGE, JOEGER, NOGEL, SEIDL, ECKER, NIPKEN. I then had to fetch the bodies, if any were still alive, unload them in front of the crematorium, where they were then carried into the refrigerator room. There the medic was waiting and the live victims were dispatched to the next world by means of an injection.

Q. Can you tell us who gave this injection and did you see it yourself?
A. Dr RICHTER. I saw it with my own eyes. Unterscharfuehrer PROKSCH, who was NIEDERMAYER'S subordinate, was his true and faithful servant, who together with him, killed prisoners by mistreatment, chicanery or strangling with a rope. Often they gave a rope to the prisoner with the words: "Hang yourself, that is better for you, otherwise we must help". Many died this way.

Q. Did this happen often?
A. It happened more than once, because I had to take off the ropes from the bodies and to give it to NIEDERMAYER personally, because he needed it again for further use. Or if NIEDERMAYER was absent, I had to leave the ropes in the cell.

A.T.

H3382 - 0022

3845-PS
20

USFA WC - 28 (T II - TIEFENBACHER)

Q. How did you know that NIEDERMAYER had placed the rope around the neck of the prisoners and that they had died this way?

A. I heard every word in the crematory downstairs, because upstairs there was only metal sheeting laid down on the passage and thus I was able to hear every word.
There were prisoners in block 20 who were not registered and they were the victims of these constables. According to their whims and moods, they had to stand so long under a cold shower until they fell unconcious or dead. They also came with machine-pistols and shot at will into the crowd. The bodies were burned at once. As far as I know, there were about 1000 prisoners, the greater part Russian officers and generals and also Yugoslavian and Polish officers. They were ordered to shovel down the snow from the roof of the barracks. They had already decided to try to escape. They shovelled the snow in steps to the wall, plastered the guard with missiles and escaped over the wall. They climed up to the guard located on a tower, throw it down and shot at the guard-chain with a machine-gun and spread over the whole front-line to the next tower guard. Meanwhile the connecting sentries ran away and so the prisoners got the weapons left behind and escaped with these weapons. Alarm was given and pursuit taken up immediately. Those found were shot on the spot. Those of them who did not try to escape, were killed at once. One part escaped successfully with the aid of stolen sledges and horses. A Russian Colonel-General accompanied by high-ranking officers had a lucky escape. I don't know the name of the Russian General but I know, that the attempt to escape was instigated by these Russian and Polish officers. It took two or three days for the fire brigade of the camp to carry away the bodies lying around and a fire-man managed to escape. About 700 broke out, 450 to 500 of whom were shot during the attempt to escape. The rest succeeded in gaining their liberty. Within a radius of 100 km, the whole area was combed by the SS, but no more were recaptured or found.

During the first big attack on LINZ in July/August 1944, about 24 planes were shot down. The crews were shot while descending with their parachutes or after they landed. Those who succeeded in landing did not give themselves up or escaped in the forest.

All the prisoners had to line up at the wall, were searched and then brought to the cells.

At night about 0200 hours SS mess sergeant PURRUCKER and camp leader ZIEREIS arrived in the latter's private car. In the rear seats of the car were two American pilots, who had been shot.

KANDUTH, the bearer of the corpses, and I brought the bodies to the crematorium, where they were undressed.

H3382 - 0023

A.T.

Their valuables were taken from them by PURRUCKER and ZIEREIS after which the bodies were cremated.

We were strictly ordered not to talk to any of the prisoners about the events of this night to avoid any trouble in the camp. The remaining 36 American pilots were fetched by the "Wehrmacht" in a fortnight's time and interrogated. But they could not get any information out of them, so they were sent away and did not return to the camp, so I do not know what happened to them. But it is probable, they had their hair cut, were dressed in prison clothes and then beaten to death, poisoned, or hanged.

I know of such cases, as it happened before several hundred times.

Q. Is there any chance, that the American pilots might have been brought to some camp by the "Wehrmacht"?
A. Yes.

Q. Why do you say that the American soldiers might have been beaten to death.
A. It had happened that unknown people had been brought to the bunker.

Q. How many living soldiers were taken away by the "Wehrmacht"?
A. Thirty-six.

Q. When did this happen?
A. Fourteen days after the raid in the afternoon.

Q. How many bodies were brought in by the SS ?
A. Four or five bodies.

Q. When was this?
A. 8 o'clock in the evening.

Q. Do you remember if among those bodies were some taken away by the "Wehrmacht" in the afternoon ?
A. I do not think so, because Wehrmacht and SS could not stand each other.

Q. Is there the possibility that the 36 taken away by the Wehrmacht are still alive today?
A. Maybe but I doubt it.

Q. Why do you suppose that some of the American pilots might have been gassed or hanged or beaten to death?
A. I presume it.

Q. Why?
A. I suppose so, because commander ZIEREIS brought those two dead men in his car that night. It is very likely that others were killed too, because the SS were capable of any infamy. At the time of the HEYDRICH affair in the Protektorat former CSR) about 30 women were gassed and the men or officers present were shot.

H3382-0024

The women were told they would be discharged, and would have to take a bath and in the meantime their belongings would be packed.

Q. Who told the women ?
A. Commander ZIEREIS remarked that the women were going to be discharged. Of course, none of them ever returned from their bath.
Dr. KREBSBACH observed that gassing would be more hygienic, and the other physicians too agreed to it, calling it a more humane way of killing.
Bathing, injecting, gassing and the so-called "trip to the unknown" were daily occurences.
Hauptscharfuehrer NIPPKEN, called "the boxer", the most feared man in the camp used to smash the prisoners' jaw and teeth.
He belonged to the annihilation-group acting outside the camp.
Because of a carelessness of my chief, Hauptscharfuehrer ROTH, leader of the crematorium, one day I found a letter with the following content:

"You are requested to present yourself at 10 a.m. at the ROSSAUERLAENDE to lead a transport of 250 prisoners.

signed: Annihilation-group M.P.H.
Signature illegible. "

This letter was lying crumpled near the coke-oven. I found it, read it, and then burned it.
Once I asked ROTH why he did not go to VIENNA, but he would not speak about that. Anyhow I knew the reason from the letter.
Then he left for eight to fourteen days, saying that he is going to attend an instructive-course.
I answered: I know the ROSSAUERLAENDE, and I know what you are going to do there.
It could only be something like "Gestapo-service", the Gestapo being located there. After which he answered that he lived nearby. He was very careful in his talk and did not say much.

Q. When do you say, ROTH went to VIENNA ?
A. At the end of May 1943.

Q. While he was away, who was in charge of the camp?
A. The commander of GUSEN, I do not know his name. Leader of the labour-service WEISE, who was very rough and capable of any crime was mostly present at the interrogations in the office of the Chief Warden and used the following methods:
He beat them, tied them to a post, bound their feet, then the chair was pulled away and he threw his weight onto the prisoner in order to double the weight the prisoner had to bear with his tied arms.
Most of them talked then and admitted everything, even things they never committed, only to be relieved of their tortures.
Then they were brought to the bunker and after two or three days they were dead.
The same methods were used by "Rapport"-leader TRUM. Leader of the chiefward STREITWIESER, Untersturmfuehrer at that time, incited his dog to tear up the prisoners. It happened as follows: He went through the camp with his dog, which, at the call "Pack ihn" (seize him) threw himself onto the prisoner and tore him up. When he thought the prisoner was hurt enough by this maltreatment, he called his dog back, knowing that in most of the cases the dog-bites caused death. Chief Warden BACHMAYER acted in the same way with his dog "LORD". At the interrogations too, one of the dogs usually was present.

H3382 – 0025

Q. Who had the big dog and who had the small one ?
A. STREITWIESER had the small one, BACHMAYER's dog was a big one. Previously there were two big dogs, but Sturmfuehrer SCHUETZ shot one of them.

Q. Why did he shoot him ?
A. Because the dog had attacked him.
According to what they wanted to get out of the prisoners, they were tortured. I remember the prisoner BACHER, Paul, a Viennese, who was recaptured after three weeks and brought back to MAUTHAUSEN, where he was interrogated at the camp. STREITWIESER said at the interrogation: "To cut a long story short, we shall make him talk very soon". So Arbeitsdienstfuehrer TRUM made it short with him, tied him up and let him hang with his head down, while he shook him. BACHMAYER had a big dog with him, which he incited to attack the man, who was helpless. At this, the prisoner was shamefully torn and hurt. The blood ran down his nose, eyes and mouth. Then they untied him, 2 prisoners came along and carried the body to the hospital.

Q. Was he dead ?
A. No, just unconscious. A prisoner brought him to the sick room, because he was still unconscious. There he was treated and received injections. He was there for two days and was continually visited by the leader of the political department, SCHULZ, and other leaders of the camp (Schutzhaftlagerfuehrer). On these occasions, he was interrogated by them, but they never received an answer. Then he was brought to the cell block where he died. As far as I could find out his death was the result of the mistreatment.
After that, I picked him up and brought him to the crematorium.

Q. When you took him, was he dead or still alive ?
A. Already dead.

Q. Were you able to determine by what manner he was executed ?
A. From the effects of the wounds. The blood was on his head. He also had the dog's bites on his arms.

Q. What else ?
A. Hauptscharfuehrer SPATZENEGGER in charge of the command at the quarry "WIENERGRABEN" was one of the biggest criminals that ever lived. It is impossible to describe his individual acts. Only some examples: Jews were forced by him to jump down a depth of 45 m, into ice-cold water, to carry heavy stones etc. He gave them a rope and said to them: "Hang yourself, that is much better". Usually it was carried out.

Q. Did you see SPATZENEGGER giving the rope to somebody with your own eyes and did you actually hear him say so ?
A. Yes.

Q. How could you see it, since you were in the crematorium and he was in the quarry "WIENERGRABEN" ?
A. I was called down, because I had to count the number of the dead, who were lying there, and I had to carry them away. The bodies also were photographed.

Q. Who sent forthe photographer ?
A. He was called by SPATZENEGGER to photograph the bodies.

Q. Where were the photos kept and why ?
A. In a barrack, there they were also developed and a report had to be sent to BERLIN.

H3382 - 0026

3845-PS
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USFA-WC-28 (T II, TIEFENBACHER)

In Winter with a temperature of 30 to 35 degrees SPATZENEGGER forced them to take off their gloves, and jackets down to their shirts, were they had to work so hard in order to get warm and to keep moving. Most of them were in a frozen condition, such as frozen noses, ears, feet etc. He sent most of the prisoners through the guard-chain, then they did not have to suffer any longer. Oberscharfuehrer HASEWEND and MUELLER were well known in the camp as famous butchers. The leader of the desinfection section, KARTNER, the supervisors of the kitchen STRENG and STRIEGEL, administrator SCHWERING, the repair-shop foreman GROSS, the gardener HENZEL and the store-keeper Oberscharfuehrer STROBL were the sadists and torturers of the prisoners. Hauptscharfuehrer ECKER and SEIDL used their own methods to torture the people.

Q. Did you see that personally ?
A. Yes, yes, the prisoners often showed me their wounds.

Q. But you only saw the wounds, and not the action ?
A. I saw the wounds, and they actually told me.

Q. But what did you see yourself ?
A. I was present in the laundry when SEIDL said: "Is this ironed ? There is a crease in it, come here". Then he burnt the prisoner with the iron. Then prisoners were forced into a cold bath or into a washing drum, only to torture them, just for the sake of his sadistic inclinations. SAUER, the first commander of camp Mauthausen andthe camp commander SCHOENGRABER taught the block leaders how to treat the prisoners by personal demonstration. Once SAUER caused a prisoner to fall off the roof of a barrack by hitting him with a wooden plank. He was a carpenter himself, and on that occasion he showed him how a carpenter should work. But SCHOENGRABER was not to be outdone and he used the following methods: The prisoners were forced to carry sand up the stairs at double time and many collapsed from exhaustion; they had to carry heavy stones until they collapsed unconscious.
During the construction of the camp, in order to hasten the building work, the SS guards were ordered to have the prisoners run the gauntlet, that is, the prisoners, carrying heavy stones, had to run between the guards who were posted from left to right. The prisoners were bayonetted by the guards as they passed them.
The whole thing in my estimation, was mass-murder of human beings on a vast scale.
NIEDERMAYER was known as the worst SS man in the camp, who mistreated the prisoners.

/s/ Albert Tiefenbacher
/t/ ALBERT TIEFENBACHER

ATTEST:

/s/ D G Paston
/t/ DAVID G PASTON
Lt Col QMC
Investigator-Examiner

H3382 - 0027

I certify that the above testimony was translated to the witness in his own language, prior to his signature, which appears above.

/s/ Louis Groy
/t/ LOUIS L GROY
Tec 4 46010206
Interpreter

SECRET

3845-PS
45

USFA - WC - 28

WCIT #6836
US Army

Alleged Occurrence: Murder of American and British Prisoners of War
Date: On or about 24 January 1945
At: MAUTHAUSEN Concentration Camp, Austria

I N T E R R O G A T I O N

Authority: Par 21, SO 146, Hq ETOUSA, dtd 26 May 45; Organization order #270, Hq ETOUSA dtd 24 Apr 45, AG 322, OpGC.

Oaths: The persons hereinafter named, as reporter, interpreter, witness, appeared before the Investigator-Examiner and each was duly sworn by him in the following respective form:

OATH ADMINISTERED TO REPORTER

"You swear that you will faithfully perform the duties of reporter in this investigation now being conducted by me, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

OATH ADMINISTERED TO INTERPRETER

"You swear that you will truthfully interpret in this investigation now being conducted by me, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

OATH ADMINISTERED TO WITNESS

"You swear that the evidence you shall give in this investigation now being conducted by me shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

Name of witness: ALBERT TIEFENBACHER
Date testimony taken: 10 DECEMBER 1945
Place testimony taken: SALZBURG, AUSTRIA, HQ WCIT 6836

	Name	Grade	ASN
Investigator-Examiner:	DAVID G PASTON	Lt Col	O - 389428
Asst Investigator Cross-Examiner:	WILLIAM A GORDON	Capt	O - 115408
Reporter:	MARIANNE SEMMELROGGE	Civilian	Court Reporter
Interpreter:	FRIEDRICH SCHMIDT	CIVILIAN	Interpreter

~~TESTIMONY OF:~~

~~Direct examination by:~~

Session convened at 1430 hours.

A096894

SECRET

AGPO 8-45/2500/C2176ABCD

H3382 - 0028

H3382 – 0029

SECRET

3845-PS
26

Testimony of: FRIEDRICH SCHMIDT, Interpreter.

Direct examination by: Lt-Col PASTON.

Q: When and where were you born ?
A: 10 April, 1911 in CRASNA BRESNA (Czechoslovakia).

Q: How long did you live in Czechoslovakia ?
A: Seventeen years. The rest of my life I lived in foreign countries: Switzerland, Australia, USA, and Germany.

Q: In these foreign countries did you have occasion to speak the German and English languages ?
A: Yes. Up to the age of fourteen, I visited German Schools in Czechoslovakia. In Switzerland, I studied the French language in a College of Christian Brothers. In Australia and USA, I conversed in English.

Q: Did you have occasion to talk over a period of many years with people in German, English and French ?
A: Yes.

Q: Did you experience any difficulty in interpreting in English, German, French and Russian ?
A: No.

Q: Have you had any experience in acting as interpreter in the English, German, French and Russian languages ?
A: Yes, I was interpreter for French and English at the Airport in MUNICH, interpreter for Russian and German in Russia for the German Wehrmacht. Furthermore, I acted as an interpreter-receptionist in different hotels. After the surrender, in April 1945, near MIESBACH (MUNICH) I acted as interpreter for the 101 Airborne Division, Military Police Headquarters, Provost Marshal at BERCHTESGADEN and BADGASTEIN until September 1945.

Friedrich S C H M I D T

ATTEST:
D C PASTON
Lt Col O-130425
Investigator-Prosecutor.

SECRET

A096895

SECRET

3845-PS

Testimony of: Albert TIEFENBACHER

Direct examination by: Lt Col PASTON

Q. What else can you tell us?

A. I always made my little notes to remember those who died in a normal way. I made a mark when he died otherwise.

Q. Do you remember who kept the records showing the number of people who died?

A. One of the prisoners, his name was MARTIN, kept the records of all the people who died.

Q. What happened to those records?

A. Every three weeks they had to be handed over.

Q. To whom?

A. These records were kept threefold for everyone who died, one at the political department, one at the camp, and one at the hospital. At the time of surrender everyone tried to burn the books, but MARTIN's copy was saved after all and given to the Americans.

Q. Who gave them to the Americans?

A. MARTIN gave them to the commander.

Q. Which commander?

A. The American commander.

Q. Do you remember, that before the Americans came in, someone took the books and burned them?

A. I do not know. I think the political leader himself has done it.

Q. I show you these papers. Do you recognize them? (Witness is shown Exhibit Q)

A. Yes. I recognize the handwriting.

Q. Whose handwriting is it?

A. It is the handwriting of IGNAZ PROKOWSKY, a Pole, who also worked in the crematorium. This is PROKOWSKY's handwriting, I recognize it very clearly.

Q. Why did PROKOWSKY keep these records?

A. Because they had to know how many bodies they had to burn so that they could estimate the amount of coal they needed.

Q. I show you these same papers again, marked A, B, C, D, E, on the back of each sheet and containing the signature of another individual. I ask you to sign your name below the other name. (Witness signs his name).

Q. What else can you tell us?

SECRET

A 096896

H3382 - 0030

SECRET

3845-PS
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A. It was always the same. Once, 300 Dutch Jews had to jump down the wall and were killed.

Q. When?

A. About August, September 1942 they arrived, and after three months all of them were gone.

Q. How did they die?

A. They had to jump down 45 meters.

Q. Why did they have to jump down?

A. The guards wanted them to jump down so as to die quicker.

Q. Why?

A. The guards pushed them down when they hesitated to jump.

Q. Why did the guards tell them to jump down?

A. They said: "No use to walk you will be quicker down by jumping down."

Q. Did the guards not know that these people were killed by jumping or being pushed?

A. Of course, they knew.

Q. If they were interested in killing these people why did they not shoot them or gas them?

A. They said the bullet is too good for them.

Q. When did that take place?

A. About August, September 1942, most probably in August.

Q. Why were they brought to MAUTHAUSEN?

A. MAUTHAUSEN was a proper annihilation camp because nobody ever got out of it.

Q. Did you ever hear it called "MORDHAUSEN"?

A. Even letters arrived addressed "MORDHAUSEN" instead of MAUTHAUSEN. Before the opening of the camp there was a Russian prisoners' camp where a lot of the inmates died.

Q. ALTFULDISCH examined the prisoners' mail that came in?

A. Yes.

Q. Was he angry when letters arrived which were addressed "MORDHAUSEN"?

A. No. He only had a smile in his face.

Q. Did ZIEREIS or any of the others become angry?

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A. ZIEREIS had nothing to do with the mail, only with that of political prisoners.

Q. But if much mail was received with "MORDHAUSEN", it must have been known to ZIEREIS.

A. If much mail arrived they sorted it out and burned it afterwards.

Q. People outside MAUTHAUSEN sending letters to their friends addressing it "MORDHAUSEN", did they not risk punishment?

A. Yes, of course, they fell in disgrace. If the letter was of heavy contents the Gestapo was notified, and they were brought into the camp, too. The relatives of the prisoners always were under surveillance of the Gestapo.

Q. How do you suppose people in Austria used the name "MORDHAUSEN", if the people in Austria did not know what was going on in MAUTHAUSEN?

A. Sometimes, the people outside heard something about the camp by smuggled mail, also through the working commando of the outer camps.

Q. Do you remember who shot the five girls?

A. No. I cannot remember.

Q. Do you remember the Russians or Czech girls who lived just above the crematorium?

A. Yes. I can remember them. KANDUTH was sending them some notes and he said they were foreigners.

Q. Did you see them?

A. No. I never saw them.

Q. Did you see them being shot?

A. No. I have not seen this. I can remember when they shot three girls, but they were Yugoslavs.

Q. Did you see who shot them?

A. One of the members of the commander's staff was always chosen to do that job.

Q. Which one of the commander's staff did this job?

A. Those who were nearest to the commander were picked out and were ordered to carry out the executions.

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Q. And you were able to see through the peephole of the door who did the shooting?

A. Yes. I was able to look through.

Q. Who shot these girls?

A. I did not see who shot them, because I believe they were shot outside the camp.

Q. Do you remember some girls being shot in the execution chamber?

A. No, I cannot remember, because I had a lot to do with these people. There were executions every day.

Q. Do you remember the particular girls who sent this note?

A. Not quite. I just noticed that they sent a note up to the girls with packages of food and cigarettes.

Q. How long did the girls stay there before they were shot?

A. KANDUTH must know this better than I.

Q. Did you ever see the girls?

A. I have seen them taking a walk in the yard and, once, KANDUTH pointed the girls out as being the women he sent the note.

Q. Were they good - looking?

A. Yes. Very much.

Q. Age?

A. About 17 to 24 or 30.

Q. Would 17 to 20 be more accurate?

A. I am not sure, because I was not allowed to speak to them.

Q. For a couple of days before the executions do you know what was going on between the girls and the SS men?

A. I do not know.

Q. Would KANDUTH know?

A. If he wrote the girls notes, he must know it.

Q. If KANDUTH tells us that several SS men were forcibly raping these girls two or three days before their death would he know what he was talking about?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you remember the execution of these girls?

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A. I can only remember when some girls were gassed.

Q. But do you remember when these particular girls were shot?

A. No, I cannot remember.

Q. Do you remember the executions of other girls?

A. Yes, I can.

Q. Tell us about it.

A. I already told you about the executions. There were women who were gassed and men who were shot.

Q. What can you tell us about ZUTTER?

A. I was never in contact with ZUTTER, so I do not know him very much. ZUTTER used to be here and there for short periods only.

Q. And looking through the door of the execution chamber how many times did you see ZUTTER there?

A. We had to carry the dead bodies into the refrigerator room.

Q. And ZUTTER?

A. Some of the political leaders came and said: There is going to be an execution, keep yourself ready.

Q. In what way was ZUTTER connected with the executions?

A. I do not know.

Q. Did you ever see ZUTTER present in the execution room during an execution?

A. Yes. More than once.

Q. How many times approximately?

A. I cannot count it. It was very often that I had to be there at the executions.

Q. Why did ZUTTER have to be present at every execution?

A. The dead body had to be taken right away, and the blood had to be cleaned from the floor.

Q. The question was, why was it necessary for ZUTTER to be present?

A. If he was on duty he always had to be there. Just whoever was on duty, was present. At every execution a chief warden had to be there. Sometimes, if SCHULZ was not present, ZUTTER had to be there.

Q. ZUTTER was not a chief warden?

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A. Sometimes nobody was here at all. It often happened that he just was anxious to see and come down himself.

Q. How do you know that?

A. Many times, ZUTTER called us up on the phone at the crematorium, asking us to let him know when an execution would take place, because he was anxious to witness it.

Q. ZUTTER did not call you on the phone?

A. No. He called ROTH or somebody else.

Q. If ZUTTER called ROTH or somebody else how do you know the conversation that took place.

A. I recognized his voice. When a call came through it could only have been about an execution.

Q. But how do you know that ZUTTER was asking to be notified when an execution would take place?

A. Most of the time the runner came up and asked him, who rang up, so I tried to find out who rang up and he told me some chief warden or BACHMAIER or some other, whoever else had happened to be.

Q. Who set the time for the executions?

A. The political department.

Q. Was that SCHULZ's department?

A. Yes.

Q. From whom did SCHULZ get his orders?

A. From the commandant or his adjutat.

Q. How do you know?

A. The order said if SCHULZ was not there, we had to wait till the commandant or the adjutant arrives, and we had to wait with the execution until they arrived. Sometimes they had to take the prisoners back when the commandant was not here.

Q. How about the adjutant?

A. If the adjutant was there he gave the list with the names and orders of the executions. Often, the execution could not take place, because the medical man or doctor was not there.

Q. Why did they need a doctor?

A. To certify whether the prisoner was shot or hanged.

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Q. How many times did ZUTTER act for the commandant and gave the orders for the executions?

A. I do not know how many times. Sometimes nobody was there, sometimes, he would call on the phone what was to be done. Often, phone calls came through and ROTH was asked to come down, when there had to be an execution.

Q. Who did that?

A. MÜLLER of the political department. The runner of the prisoners had to search for the various members of the department. ZUTTER just gave orders, called up the political department and they sent out the runner to get hold of the man in charge.

Q. How do you know that ZUTTER gave the orders?

A. Because everybody who came along said that ZUTTER gave this order.

Q. Who is everybody?

A. The block leader WEISE and others. Nobody ever did like to go down to the execution chamber.

Q. Who said that?

A. WEISE and GROSS and TRUM.

Q. To whom did they say that?

A. To the Scharführer. Nobody liked to go, nobody wanted to know anything about it.

Q. What did ZUTTER have to do with it?

A. He was the right hand man of the commandant. He had all the troops under his power, and had to assign the men to the executions.

Q. How do you know that?

A. Everybody knew that, because ZUTTER ran around with his fourrage denoting the office of adjutant he occupied.

Q. Beside being adjutant did you see him do something or hear him say something that would indicate a connection with any execution?

A. I do not know myself. I just heard it from the political department, because there were some other prisoners working there who told me.

Q. Who told you what?

A. Most of the prisoners had prisoners' camp commandos in

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their hands, and they knew right away who would get the commands or would give the commands.

Q. What are the names of those prisoners?

A. HOFFMANN. He told me everything he knew. I knew HOFFMANN very well, so he told me a lot. There were others, but I do not know them too well, so they did not tell me anything. Even I was not allowed to tell anybody anything.

Q. How many times did you see ZUTTER at the executions?

A. ZUTTER was not there too often. He was only present when larger executions took place, about 20 or 30 times in all.

Q. Which big executions?

A. 60 - 80 - 100 - up to 120 or even 150 were the big executions where mostly all of them were present, the commandant, the adjutant, the chief warden, Rapportführer, labor leaders, and sometimes they had some visitors of the Luftwaffe or the Waffen SS. Mostly, when the visitors came they made exhibition executions.

Q. Can you give us an example?

A. If some visitors came, the commandant presented to them the prisoners. These had to take their clothes off, walk stripped in front of the visitors, when the commandant called out the prisoners' names and that they were to be executed.

Q. Was is the usual practice to notify the prisoners that they were going to be executed?

A. Most of the time they had to sign a paper, while they did not know what they signed.

Q. When the visitors were present, the prisoners knew they were to be executed?

A. Mostly, the prisoners did not know what they signed, they just had to sign the blank paper, which was later filled in. Sometimes, I had a chance to speak to a prisoner and I asked him what he thinks is going to happen to him. He said: "I do not know." And I told him that he was going to be executed.

Q. But you said that before an exhibition execution took place, the commandant told the victims they were going to be executed?

A. Only shortly before the execution. They made them line up and told them that they were going to be executed.

Q. Was that only at the exhibition executions?

A. Often. He never read a verdict at all. They just told them they were to be shot. It is true most of the time the prisoners never were told.

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Often they called the prisoners out, and when they lined up, and asked why, they were told that they were to be executed. It was SCHULZ or the chief warden who told them they were to be shot.

Q. When they took people to the gas chamber to be gassed these people were not informed whether they were to be executed?

A. The people who came into the gas chamber mostly never did know.

Q. They were generally given a piece of soap and towel?

A. Most of the time they did not get soap and towel, they were only told, when they would come out they would then have soap and towel. After the gassing the pieces of soap were collected again and placed on the table of the room where they disrobed.

Q. Do you remember, about 24 January 1945, when the Americans and the British were shot?

A. I only remember when they were brought in. They were parachuters. There were so many executions, I do not remember it. It might have been at the time mentioned. I was sick at that time. I have been at the hospital for three months.

Q. Which three months?

A. From November 1944 until February 1945. At that time a transport of 125 Russians was brought in, and they called me out, but I could not go, because I fell sick.

Q. Why did they call you out?

A. Because the others were not enough.

Q. What others?

A. Those working in the crematorium.

Q. What else can you tell us?

A. It was always the same with the executions, either shootings and hangings were daily occurrences. We never had a chance to think it over.

Q. You told us something about injections and dissections. Did any of them involve women who were experimented with?

A. Yes. There were lots of women, even women with children.

Q. Go ahead. You tried to say something else.

A. Lots of these women and children were sent away to the outer camps, because they did not have enough milk for them. It was remarkable we never learned what happened to the women and children.

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Q. What happened to the women and children?

A. They told me they were sent to a woman's camp near WELS, but there was no such place. We never heard anything about them.

Q. Did you see any woman injected or dissected?

A. Yes, I have seen them often down at the hispital.

Q. Why was this done?

A. Just to make room for others, and to experiment with them.

Q. What was the experiment with the women?

A. They just experimented on them with serums for various sicknesses and to watch the reactions on the injected body. The women down at the brothel even got Schnaps and wine, and were then watched as to their reactions, when they were put into contact with sterilized men there whether they were still capable of begetting.

Q. Who were sterilized, the women or the men?

A. The men. They received better food than the others.

Q. What else do you know?

A. In the brothel there was one girl, and one of the doctors performed a caesarian section on her.

Q. Why?

A. Because it would have been too expensive for the state, if the child was born there and the state would have to pay for it.

Q. Why did they not let the child be born in a natural way?

A. They said it was not allowed to bear a child at the camp.

Q. How do you know the doctor performed a caesarian section on this girl?

A. I heard it from the other women. It was the talk of the women afterwards. The girl then died after she bled out, and the body was sent down to be dissected.

Q. Who did that?

A. She was dissected by Dr RICHTER.

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Q. Why was it necessary to dissect her?

A. To learn by experiments.

Q. To learn what?

A. I do not know.

Q. What else can you tell us?

A. It was always the same.

Q. What do you mean "always the same"?

A. Either they sent them away, the sick to other camps, and we never heard anything from them. They mostly returned clothes and ashes, that was all.

Q. What else can you tell us?

A. Often some of the SS men took a ride in four or five cars during the evening, and brought some people in whom they killed.

Q. What people?

A. People from the city nearby who were considered insane. They let them take a cold bath and stand for three or four hours out in the cold. Then they died. If not, then they were killed.

Q. How you know that?

A. In the garage there were prisoners working who told me that the SS took a drive without lights or with false numbers, and they brought in some people.

Q. You never saw any people brought in yourself?

A. Yes, I have seen it myself.

Q. Just what did you personally see yourself?

A. When I came down to the garage I have seen the cars without numbers, a lot of clothes and bunches of hair, because the cars had to be disinfected and cleaned of the blood. Often, a committee came down from BERLIN to choose the invalids from the prisoners. They were then gathered in a transport, their files with them, and we never heard about them anymore.

Q. These people that were killed, were they supposed to be insane?

A. Yes. They had to be done away with since there was not enough food for them.

Q. Who made the decision whether the people were sane or insane?

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A. The doctors in that village where they got these people from.

Q. What else can you tell us?

A. Well, that is just about all, right now.

Session adjourned 1730 hours.

/s/ TIEFENBACHER

ATTEST:

/s/ DAVID G PASTON
Lt Col QMC
Investigator-Examiner

I certify that the above testimony was translated to the witness in his own language, prior to his signature, which appears above.

/s/ Louis L CROY
Tec 4 46010206
Interpreter

WAR CRIMES INVESTIGATING TEAM 6824, A.P.O. 777, U.S. ARMY
OFFIZIELL
OFFICIAL
OFFICIEL
Salzburg, Austria

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SECRET

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WCIT #6836
US Army

Alleged Occurrence: Murder of American and British Prisoners of War.

Date: On or about 24 January 1945.

At: MAUTHAUSEN Concentration Camp, Austria

I N T E R R O G A T I O N

Authority: Par 21, SO 146, Hq ETOUSA, dtd 26 May 45; Organization order #270, Hq ETOUSA dtd 24 Apr 45, AG 322, OpGC.

Par 8, SO 113, Hq USFA, dtd 27 November 1945

Oaths: The persons hereinafter named, as reporter, interpreter, witness, appeared before the Investigator-Examiner and each was duly sworn by him in the following respective form:

OATH ADMINISTERED TO REPORTER

"You swear that you will faithfully perform the duties of reporter in this investigation now being conducted by me, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

OATH ADMINISTERED TO INTERPRETER

"You swear that you will truthfully interpret in this investigation now being conducted by me, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

OATH ADMINISTERED TO WITNESS

"You swear that the evidence you shall give in this investigation now being conducted by me shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

Name of witness: ALBERT TIEFENBACHER

Date testimony taken: 17 December 1945

Place testimony taken: Salzburg, Austria, Hq WCIT 6836

Investigator-Examiner: DG PASTON (Name) Lt Col (Grade) 0-189428 (ASN)

Asst Investigator Cross-Examiner: _____ (Name) _____ (Grade) _____ (ASN)

Reporter: Johanna SUESS (Name) Civilian Court Reporter (Grade) _____ (ASN)

Interpreter: LOUIS L CROY (Name) Tec 4 (Grade) 46010206 (ASN)

~~TESTIMONY OF~~: _____

~~Direct examination by~~:

Session convened at: 1600 hours

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AGPO 8-45/2500/C2176ABCD

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SECRET

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46

Testimony of: LOUIS L CROY, Interpreter

Direct Examination by: Lt Col PASTON

1. Q. State your name, grade and U S Army serial number?
A. Louis L Croy, Technician Fourth Grade, 46010206.

2. Q. When and where were you born?
A. 16 April 1914, in Vienna, Austria.

3. Q. Did you speak German daily while you lived in Austria?
A. Yes.

4. Q. How long did you live in Austria?
A. Twenty five years.

5. Q. Then where did you go?
A. To the United States.

6. Q. What year?
A. 1939.

7. Q. Did you there learn to speak the English language?
A. Yes, by conversation and by going to the law school of the University of Wisconsin. I studied law at the University of Vienna, receiving a Doctor of Law degree in 1937.

8. Q. Did you practice law there?
A. I was court reporter in Vienna for one year, from March 2, 1937, to March 2, 1938. I worked six months in the Anglo-Elementar Insurance Company. I also worked for the law firm of my father for one year.

9. Q. Do you have a knowledge of English?
A. Yes.

10. Q. When you arrived in the United States did you take up the study of the English language?
A. Yes. I attended the University of Wisconsin.

11. Q. Did you graduate?
A. Yes. In June 1942.

12. Q. At the University of Wisconsin Law School only the English language was spoken, is that right?

13. Q. By completing the law course successfully, you demonstrated beyond any doubt your ability to handle the English language, is that right?
A. Yes, and I was duly admitted to practice law in the State of Wisconsin.

14. Q. You consider yourself a qualified interpreter in the English and German languages?
A. Yes.

15. Q. What are your present duties?
A. Pursuant to paragraph 26, SO 81, Headquarters USFET, APO 757, U S Army, dated 4 October 1945, I was assigned to War Crimes Investigating Team 6836 for the purpose of acting as interpreter of German into English and English into German.

ATTEST: D G Paston
D G PASTON
Lt Col, O-189428
Investigator-Examiner

Louis L Croy
Louis L Croy

-2-

A096909

SECRET

USA - WC - 28 (TIEFENBACHER III)

SECRET

3845-PS
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Testimony of ALBERT TIEFENBACHER
Direct Interrogation by : Lt Col D G PASTON

Q. What can you tell us today ?
A. I have only brought you some notes of mine, namely : 6 loose sheets (exhibit a,b,c,d,e,f), which I wrote in the desinfecting section of the concentration camp at MAUTHAUSEN. These notations show the quantity and kind of desinfectants, which I received. The physicians in charge dated and signed each notation. These notes refer to the period from September 3, 1944 until April 25, 1945.

I also present you the exhibit f. This exhibit shows the number of prisoners at MAUTHAUSEN, and at the sub-camps of MAUTHAUSEN on the 14 August 1944. My original note became blurred, and exhibit f is a pencil-copy of this camp. I made a mistake in the copy and wrote " 14 August 1945" instead of "14 August 1944". I collected these figures in the following manner : I worked in the desinfecting section at MAUTHAUSEN, and had to pack the desinfectants designated for the sub-camps. The quantity of these desinfectants differed according to the number of prisoners at the sub-camps, and before I could distribute desinfectants, I had to know the number of prisoners at the individual sub-camp. In this manner I also learned, how many people were transferred from MAUTHAUSEN to the sub-camps. I also kept the registration book of transports of sick people from the sub-camps of MAUTHAUSEN to the central-camp, as well as the arrival of new transports. The SS discoverred this book and destroyed it.

Tiefenbacher Albert
X

ATTEST :
D G PASTON
Lt Col QMC
Investigator-Examiner

I certify that the above testimony was translated to the witness in his own language, prior to his signature, which appears above.

OFFIZIELL
OFFICIAL
OFFICIEL
Salzburg, Austria

LOUIS L CROY
Tec 4 46010206
Interpreter

Louis Croy

H3382 - 0044

SECRET

A 046910

USFA-WC-28

3845-PS

SECRET

WCIT #6836
US Army

Alleged Occurrence: Murder of American and British Prisoners of War.

Date: On or about 24 January 1945.

At: Mauthausen Concentration Camp, Austria.

I N T E R R O G A T I O N

Authority: Par 21, SO 146, Hq ETOUSA, dtd 26 May 45; Organization order #270, Hq ETOUSA dtd 24 Apr 45, AG 322, OpGC.

Par. 8, SO 113, Hq. USFA, dtd 27 Nov 1945

Oaths: The persons hereinafter named, as reporter, interpreter, witness, appeared before the Investigator-Examiner and each was duly sworn by him in the following respective form:

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OATH ADMINISTERED TO WITNESS

"You swear that the evidence you shall give in this investigation now being conducted by me shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

Name of witness: ALBERT TIEFENBACHER

Date testimony taken: 18 December 1945

Place testimony taken: Salzburg, Austria, Hq WCIT 6836

Investigator-Examiner: DG PASTON (Name) L t Col (Grade) O-189428 (ASN)

Asst Investigator Cross-Examiner: _____ (Name) _____ (Grade) _____ (ASN)

Reporter: Charlotte RUBER, Civilian Court Reporter (Name) (Grade) (ASN)

Interpreter: LOUIS L CROY (Name) Tec 4 (Grade) 46010206 (ASN)

TESTIMONY OF: _____

~~Direct examination by:~~

Session convened: 1030-1130 hours

SECRET

H3382 - 0045

A-096911

AGPD 8-45/2500/C2176ABCD

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SECRET

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43

Testimony of: LOUIS L CROY, Interpreter

Direct Examination by: Lt Col PASTON

1. Q. State your name, grade and U S Army serial number?
A. Louis L Croy, Technician Fourth Grade, 46010206.

2. Q. When and where were you born?
A. 16 April 1914, in Vienna, Austria.

3. Q. Did you speak German daily while you lived in Austria?
A. Yes.

4. Q. How long did you live in Austria?
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5. Q. Then where did you go?
A. To the United States.

6. Q. What year?
A. 1939.

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A. I was court reporter in Vienna for one year, from March 2, 1937, to March 2, 1938. I worked six months in the Anglo-Elementar Insurance Company. I also worked for the law firm of my father for one year.

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A. Yes.

10. Q. When you arrived in the United States did you take up the study of the English language?
A. Yes. I attended the University of Wisconsin.

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Louis Croy
Louis L Croy

ATTEST:
D G Paston
D G PASTON
Lt Col, O-189428
Investigator-Examiner

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3845-PS
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SECRET

Testimony of: ALBERT TIEFENBACHER

Direct Examination by: Lt Col PASTON

Q. What else can you tell us about the gassing car which travelled between MAUTHAUSEN and GUSEN ?

A. In MAUTHAUSEN there were one small and two big gassing cars. In September 1942 the prisoners had to convert a police car (Green Henry - Gruener Heinrich) into a gassing car. The conversion consisted chiefly in making the interior of the car air-tight. After the car had been converted it was tested in the presence of ZIEREIS, BACHMAYER, WASICKI, STREITWIESER and ALTFULDISCH. Two prisoners were taken from the bunker (the prisoners in the bunker mostly did not appear listed in the book of the camp, as they were considered "written off").

These prisoners were locked into the car. The SS man KIEFER came into the crematory to fetch a tin-opener for the gas-tins. We were then told: "Disappear". I heard the car drive away, and two hours later I was ordered toremove the corpses of the two prisoners whom I saw enter the car. When I entered the car I noticed the sweetish smell of gas. The corpses were blue in the face and lay in a cramped position.

From this time onwards I repeatedly saw the gassing car loaded with prisoners. Usually 15 to 50 were forced to enter the car in MAUTHAUSEN.

The car usually returned the next day and I had to unload the corpses. All bodies were blue in the face and in a cramped position, and when I entered the car I noticed the sweetish smell of gas. The dead which I had to remove from the car, were not the same people who had entered the car the day before. They had smaller identification numbers on their uniforms and different identification number shields on their wrists and necks than in MAUTHAUSEN. The identification numbers of the prisoners of MAUTHAUSEN were made of tin, while prisoners in GUSEN had identification number shields of aluminium or white metal. It sometimes happened that WASNER the head of the crematory in GUSEN payed a visit to his friend the head of the crematory of MAUTHAUSEN and asked him in my presence: "Why do you send us down so many dead" ? I understood from this, that the prisoners of MAUTHAUSEN who were loaded into the car in MAUTHAUSEN had been gassed on the way to GUSEN and cremated in GUSEN, while the prisoners of GUSEN had been gassed on their way to MAUTHAUSEN, and cremated in MAUTHAUSEN. This proceeding was the general topic of conversation in GUSEN and MAUTHAUSEN.

Besides the little gassing car there were two big overland-buses which were loaded from time to time with prisoners. These buses had been in use since summer 1942. At this time a medical commission conducted by Dr.GROSS came from BERLIN. I saw how the commission was working

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A096913

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in the sick-quarters on the files of the sick and weakly prisoners. Sick and weakly prisoners were usually called up in the evening to line up in the yard, and were loaded into the overland buses. Healthy prisoners had to line up at block 2, were brought into room B, and had to go from there to room A, where the physicians were. It was prohibited for us other prisoners to look at this proceeding, but I know that in block 2 the prisoners were given injections. A certain ROBERT LUEPPERTZ from NUERNBERG was a prisoner who had to sterilize and prepare the injection-needles in the sick-quarters. These injection-needles were sent into block 2 and when he prepared these injection-needles, he usually told me that a big action is to be expected again. LUEPPERTZ is still alive. ROBERT SOMMER from STEYR and Mr. MARTIN from INNSBRUCK can state the same. I remember an electrical engineer named MAYERHOFER, who got shot in his arm in the old camp at block 4. Since that accident which happened in 1939, MAYERHOFER's arm was more or less stiff and he only got easy work. In spring 1943 I saw him come out from block 2. I asked him what he had done there and he answered that he had received an injection. I saw him and a couple of other prisoners enter one of the big overland-cars which was driven away. About 2 weeks later the urns and the clothes came back and by the identification number, I recognized MAYERHOFER's clothing.

Q. You declared in your statement of 7 December 1945 (page 7) that you remember a couple of emergency landed American aviators with their parachutes under their arms brought into the camp, and that one of these Americans had been beaten to death, by SS man FARGASCH. Can you remember when this happened ?

A. Immediately after the first big bomber-attack upon LINZ. I do not remember the date.

Tiefenbacher Albert

ATTEST:

D G Paston
DAVID G PASTON
Lt.Col. QMC
Investigator-Examiner

I certify that the above testimony was translated to the witness in his own language, prior to his signature, which appears above.

Louis Croy
LOUIS L CROY
Tec 4 46010206
Interpreter

WAR CRIMES INVESTIGATING TEAM 6836, APO 777, US ARMY
OFFIZIELL
OFFICIAL
OFFICIEL
Dr. HUMAHERO
Jutzburg, Austria

SECRET

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SECRET!

3945-PS
47

WCIT #6836
US Army

Alleged Occurrence: Murder of American and British Prisoners of War.

Date: On or about 24 January 1945

At: MAUTHAUSEN Concentration Camp, Austria

INTERROGATION

Authority: Par 21, SO 146, Hq ETOUSA, dtd 26 May 45; Organization order #270, Hq ETOUSA dtd 24 Apr 45, AG 322, OpGC.

Par 8, SO 113, Hq USFA, dtd 27 Nov 1945

Oaths: The persons hereinafter named, as reporter, interpreter, witness, appeared before the Investigator-Examiner and each was duly sworn by him in the following respective form:

OATH ADMINISTERED TO REPORTER

"You swear that you will faithfully perform the duties of reporter in this investigation now being conducted by me, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

OATH ADMINISTERED TO INTERPRETER

"You swear that you will truthfully interpret in this investigation now being conducted by me, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

OATH ADMINISTERED TO WITNESS

"You swear that the evidence you shall give in this investigation now being conducted by me shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

Name of witness: Albert TIEFENBACHER

Date testimony taken: 22 December 1945

Place testimony taken: SALZBURG, Austria, Hw WCIT 6836

	Name	Grade	ASN
Investigator-Examiner:	DAVID G PASTON	Lt Col	O- 189428
Asst Investigator Cross-Examiner:	WILLIAM A GORDON	Capt	O-115408
Reporter:	Friederike MAURACHER, Civilian Court Reporter		
Interpreter:	Louis L Croy	Tec 4	46010206

TESTIMONY OF: _____

Direct examination by:

Session convened at 0940 hours.

A 096915

Secret !

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Testimony of: LOUIS L CROY, Interpreter

Direct Examination by: Lt Col PASTON

1. Q. State your name, grade and U S Army serial number?
A. Louis L Croy, Technician Fourth Grade, 46010206.

2. Q. When and where were you born?
A. 16 April 1914, in Vienna, Austria.

3. Q. Did you speak German daily while you lived in Austria?
A. Yes.

4. Q. How long did you live in Austria?
A. Twenty five years.

5. Q. Then where did you go?
A. To the United States.

6. Q. What year?
A. 1939.

7. Q. Did you there learn to speak the English language?
A. Yes, by conversation and by going to the law school of the University of Wisconsin. I studied law at the University of Vienna, receiving a Doctor of Law degree in 1937.

8. Q. Did you practice law there?
A. I was court reporter in Vienna for one year, from March 2, 1937, to March 2, 1938. I worked six months in the Anglo-Elementar Insurance Company. I also worked for the law firm of my father for one year.

9. Q. Do you have a knowledge of English?
A. Yes.

10. Q. When you arrived in the United States did you take up the study of the English language?
A. Yes. I attended the University of Wisconsin.

11. Q. Did you graduate?
A. Yes. In June 1942.

12. Q. At the University of Wisconsin Law School only the English language was spoken, is that right?

13. Q. By completing the law course successfully, you demonstrated beyond any doubt your ability to handle the English language, is that right?
A. Yes, and I was duly admitted to practice law in the State of Wisconsin.

14. Q. You consider yourself a qualified interpreter in the English and German languages?
A. Yes.

15. Q. What are your present duties?
A. Pursuant to paragraph 26, SO 81, Headquarters USFET, APO 757, U S Army, dated 4 October 1945, I was assigned to War Crimes Investigating Team 6836 for the purpose of acting as interpreter of German into English and English into German.

ATTEST: D G Paston
D G PASTON
Lt Col, O-189428
Investigator-Examiner

Louis L Croy
Louis L. Croy

A 096916

SECRET !

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USFA - WC - 28 - (Albert TIEFENBACHER)

Testimony of Albert TIEFENBACHER.

Q: You told us that people who were still alive were brought out from the forest. And you saw that these persons were killed by Dr. RICHTER by injections. Give us the dates, and if you personally saw it, tell us about.

A: It happened so often that prisoners were brought down and then received injections.

Q: When was this ?
A: It was at 1600 hours. I just drove with the car near the sick-camp in order to fetch the bodies.

Q: On what afternoon ?
A: In June or July 1944.

Q: Where were these persons when they received an injection by Dr. RICHTER ?
A: They were at the sick-barrack with a car. They were unloaded came into the sick-barrack, received their injections and then immediately were taken away.

Q: You declared that at the same time SS- Unterscharfuehrer PROKSCH and NIEDERMAYER beat prisoners with a stick. Did it happen on the same day, when the injections were given ? Yes or no ?
A: I cannot remember exactly if it happened on the same day or not.

Q: When did this happen, when did they it ?
A: It was a daily symptom.

Q: Can you not fix any day when you saw ~~it~~ that PROKSCH and NIEDERMAYER killed people by their sticks ?
A: I declared that once. I looked through the window and saw that people were kicked and beaten in another way and then beaten with sticks.

Q: What is the approximate date ? Please note the day, month and year.
A: September 1944.

Q: Did you see it yourself with your own eyes ? Yes or no ?
A: I saw it with my own eyes that they were kicked and strangled with ropes.

Q: Were people killed in this way ?
A: Yes.

SECRET !

A.T.

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SD

SECRET !

USFA - WC - 28 - (Albert TIEFENBACHER)

Q: How many persons were murdered that day by PROKSCH and NIEDERMAYER ?
A: Four men.

Q: Do you know the names of the murdered persons ?
A: No.

Q: Tell us exactly what you have seen NIEDERMAYER do in this case ?
A: He beat them, and tried to strangle them afterwards with a stick. NIEDERMAYER also trod them with feet, and handed a stick to the prisoners, with the remark, to hang themselves, otherwise this would be carried out by them.

Q: Did they really hang themselves ?
A: No.

Q: Have they all been murdered ?
A: They were hanged.

Q: Who carried out this?
A: They hanged them. (He means PROKSCH and NIEDERMAYER).

Q: Did you see personally, that the prisoners were hanged by NIEDERMAYER, and that this caused their deaths ?
A: I did not see it directly. But the ropes were so short, that they impossibly could have hanged themselves. Suicide seems to be quite impossible.

Q: Did you see personally, if the same people afterwards were dead ?
A: Yes.

Q: Where did this take place ?
A: In the bunker of the cell-block.

Q: How many persons were murdered by NIEDERMAYER ? How many of these four persons were murdered by NIEDERMAYER?
A: NIEDERMAYER co-operated with PROKSCH and they both were responsible for the murder of many of persons.

Q: What would your answer be, if PROKSCH and NIEDERMAYER persist on not having carried out this ?
A: I would tell them straight into the face, that they have done it.

Q: Whatfore have NIEDERMAYER and PROKSCH done that ?
A: They either were ordered to do so, or, may be, just to satisfy their lust-.

SECRET !

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A096918

R. T.

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USFA - WC - 28 - (ALBERT TIEFENBACHER)

Q: Was NIEDERMAYER a bad man ?
A: NIEDERMAYER was known in the camp as a "man of horrors".

Q: You told us a story about Paul BACHER, a prisoner of MAUTHAUSEN who was pulled up by TRUM, his hands tied on his back and hang with his head downwards. Afterwards he set his dog at BACHER. Tell us when and where it happened ?
A: It was about September 1943.

Q: Tell us what in this case TRUM has done to Paul BACHER ?
A: He himself chained him, pulled him up and swang him back and forth. He afterwards was examined and the dog was set at him. I saw it with my own eyes. The blood droped out of his nose. After the cross-examination he was brought away from the sick-quarter.

Q: You told us about an SS- Hauptscharfuehrer SPATZENEGGER who threw some Jews from a hight of 45 m in the icecold water and ordered the Jews to hang themselves. Did you see it with your own eyes ?
A: Yes.

Q: When ?
A: It was either on the 1 st of September or on the 1 st October 1942.

Q: You told us also about Ignaz PROKOWSKY. Can you tell us where he is now ?
A: He went back home to Poland. He is living in the neighbourhood of WARSAW and is working in a sugar-refinery.

Q: Do you believe that he still is in the possession of the notes ?
A: He gave them to KANDUTH. They ought to be here already.

Q: Do you know HOFFMANN of MAUTHAUSEN ?
A: Yes.

Q: Is he still alive ?
A: Yes.

Q: Where ?
A: In SEEFELD in Tyrol. He is at the French CIC.

Q: What do you believe he could tell us about crimes in MAUTHAUSEN ?
A: He knows very much because he worked in the politic department as a book-keeper. There he saw and heard everything and was present everywhere.

Q: You told us of a girl on whom a physician had done an operation. What was the cause of the girl's death ?
A: In consequence of an operative intervention.

Q: Who were the persons, who had ordered the operation ?

A.T.

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USFA - WC - 28 - (Albert TIEFENBACHER)

A: The garrison physician.

Q: What are the names ?
A: Dr. KREBSBACH.

Q: Did you that yourself ?
A: No.

Q: Where do you know that from, that Dr. KREBSBACH has that done ?
A: By Robert LIPPERTS, who was occupied in the operation-hall and who told me.

Q: When was that approximately ?
A: On 10 May or 10 June 1943.

Q: You formerly told me about SS- men, who drove four or five auto-cars without lights in the evening and brought back people who they had murdered. Give us the names and the date on which that happened and if you saw it yourself ?
A: I was occupied myself in the garrage. But Max BOLTH told me. I do not know the exact date.

Q: What was the cause of that peoples deaths ?
A: They arrived overflown with blood. They were slain.

Q: What had you to do yourself with these dead ?
A: I had to empty the cars, to undress the dead and then to cremate.

Session adjourned at 1200 hours.

/s/
/t/ Tiefenbacher Albert

ATTEST:

/s/ DAVID G PASTON
Lt Col QMC
Investigator-Examiner

I certify that the above testimony was translated to the witness in his own language, prior to his signature, which appears above.

/s/ Louis L CROY
Tec 4 46010206
Interpreter

SECRET!

A 096920

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SECRET 3845-PS 53

On Hand	Item	Requested	Deliv.
--	Cuprex	2 ltr	2
--	Chlorid of lime	1000 kg	1000 kg
++	Apuacid	50 kg	50 kg
--	Petroleum	15 lt	10 lt
--	Rat-poison	60 boxes	60 b.

3. Sept. 1944

4. Sept. 1944

signed

SS- Obersturmfuehrer

--	Cuprex	2 kg	----
--	Petroleum	15 kg	10 kg
--	Rat-poison	60 boxes	60 boxes
--	Apuacid	50 kg	50 kg

signed

SS- Hauptsturmfuehrer

--	Lausetto	100 kg	
--	Cresol prudon	100 kg	
--	Petroleum	15 kg	10 kg 14/9/44
--	Room-syringe	1 p.	
--	Gips	2 kg	

14. September 1944

SECRET

A 096921

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SECRET

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On Hand	Item	Req.	Del.
	Petroleum	15 kg	15 kg
	Cresol prudens	50 kg	19/9/1944
	18. Sept. 1944		
	Formalin	10 kg	10 kg
	22. Sept. 1944		
	Petroleum	10 kg	10 kg 23. 9. 44
	22. Sept. 1944		
	Petroleum	15 kg	15 kg 4/ 10/944
	4. Okt. 1944		
	Flirt (Gix)	5 kg	
	Apuacid	50 kg	
	1 cask = 60 kg delivered		
	5/10/44		
	5. Okt. 1944		

SECRET

A096922

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SECRET 3845-15 56

On Hand	Item	Req.	Del.
	Formalin	10 kg	10 kg
	6/10/ 44		
	Chlorid of lime	1900 kg	1900 kg
			9/10/944
	10. 10. 1944		
	Cuprex	10 kg	1 kg
	Vaseline	100 kg	100 kg
	18. 10. 1944		
	Petroleum	10 kg	distributed 23. 10.
	Cresol	5 kg	2 kh
	20. 10. 1944		
	Formalin	10 kg	10 kg
	Etiketten (labels)	10 piec.	10 piec.
	24. 10. 1944		

SECRET
A 096923

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On Hand	Item	Req.	Del.
	Apuacid	50 kg	60 kg delivered
	26. Oct. 1944		
	Chlorid of lime	1000 kg	10 barrels
	Cresol	5 kg	
	Petroleum	10 kg	10 kg
	Kolau	3 kg	3 kg
	14. Nov. 1944		
	Formalin	10 kg	
	Delousing-powder	1 box	
	17. Nov. 1944		
	Delousing-powder	1 box	
	22. 11. 1944		
	Petroleum	15 kg	
	30. Nov. 1944		
	Delousing-powder	1 box	
	Chlorid of lime	10 barrels	7 small barrels 2 big barrels
	7. Dec. 1944		

A 096924

SECRET

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SECRET

384-F-PS

On Hand	Item	Req.	Deliv.
	Petroleum	5 kg 10 kg	deliv. 14.12.1944
		13. 12.1944	
		14. 12. 1944.	
	Cresol	5 kg	5 kg
	Siwax E	1 barrel	125 kg
		1 barrel and 2 casks	
		14.12.1944	
	Chlorid of lime	17 barrels	
	big barrels	17	
	small "	9	
		10. Jan. 1945	
	Cresol grunau	10 kg	10 kg
	Chlorid of lime	1500 kg	5 barrels
	Delousing-powder	4 boxes 10 boxes	7200 P.
		8. Jan. 1945	
	Petroleum	10 kg	10 kg 10/1/45
		8. Jan. 1945.	
	Cresol grünau	10 kg	
		27. Jan. 1945	

SECRET

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On Hand	Item	Req.	Deliv.
	Cresol grünau	10 kg	
	5 Febr. 1945		
	Cuprex	2000 kg	
	unit physician MAUTHAUSEN		
	none at hand		
	6. Febr. 1945		
	Petroleum	10 kg	10 kg 7.2.45
	6. Febr. 1945		
	Formalin	10 kg	
	13. Febr. 45		
	Cresol	10 kg	
	16. 2. 45		
	Petroleum	5 lt	
	16. 2. 45		
	Cresol	10 kg	10 kg
	22. 2. 45		
	Cresol	10 kg	10 kg
	Formalin	5 kg	
	Delousing-powder	2 boxes	2 boxes
	3.3.45		

SECRET

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On Hand	Item	Req.	Deliv.
	Petroleum	10 lt	
	3.3.45		
	Cresol	10 kg	
	6 March 1945		
	Cresol	10 kg	10 kg
	Chlorid of lime	10 barrels	
	16 March 1945		
2 l	Petroleum	5 kg	
	16 March 1945		
	Cresol	20 kg	20 kg
2½ l	Petroleum	5 kg	
	Formalin	10 kg	10 kg
	Cresol	20 kg	20 kg
	Formalin	10 kg	10 kg
	Petroleum	5 kg	
	9. 4. 45		
	Cresol	20 kg	20 kg
	Formalin	10 kg	10 kg
	Petroleum	5 kg	
	25. 4. 45		

SECRET

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SECRET

Mauthausen	12.000		14. VIII.45
Gusen I + II.	24.000		
Gusen III	300		
Linz I	5.000		
Linz II	500		
Linz III	300		August 44
Ebensee	12.000		
Passau I	600		
Passau II	150		
Passau III	60		
Ternberg	500		
Grossransing	3.000		
Melk	10.000	camp-supply all delivered	
Peggau I.	600		
Peggau II	500		
Klagenfurth	200		
Laibach	500		
Laiblpass	1.000		
Laibl	2.000		

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Henkelwerke	4.000	x x	
Floridsdorf			
Wr. Neustadt	1.500	x	
Mittelbach	1.000	x	
Floridsdorf	1.000		
St. Lambrecht	350		
St. Valentin	1.500		x Panzerwerke
Wels i.O.	2.000		
Amstetten I)			
II)	3.000		No. 507 settled
III)			
Gunzkirchen	450		
Steyr Minichholz	3.000		Steyrwerke :
W- Neudorf	3.000		
Saurer Werke	2.000		
Schwechart	200		
Schloss Lied	200		

SECRET

A096929

SECRET

H3382 – 0064

Testimony of: LOUIS L CROY, Interpreter

Direct Examination by: Lt Col PASTON

1. Q. State your name, grade and U S Army serial number?
A. Louis L Croy, Technician Fourth Grade, 46010206.

2. Q. When and where were you born?
A. 16 April 1914, in Vienna, Austria.

3. Q. Did you speak German daily while you lived in Austria?
A. Yes.

4. Q. How long did you live in Austria?
A. Twenty five years.

5. Q. Then where did you go?
A. To the United States.

6. Q. What year?
A. 1939.

7. Q. Did you there learn to speak the English language?
A. Yes, by conversation and by going to the law school of the University of Wisconsin. I studied law at the University of Vienna, receiving a Doctor of Law degree in 1937.

8. Q. Did you practice law there?
A. I was court reporter in Vienna for one year, from March 2, 1937, to March 2, 1938. I worked six months in the Anglo-Elementar Insurance Company. I also worked for the law firm of my father for one year.

9. Q. Do you have a knowledge of English?
A. Yes.

10. Q. When you arrived in the United States did you take up the study of the English language?
A. Yes. I attended the University of Wisconsin.

11. Q. Did you graduate?
A. Yes. In June 1942.

12. Q. At the University of Wisconsin Law School only the English language was spoken, is that right?

13. Q. By completing the law course successfully, you demonstrated beyond any doubt your ability to handle the English language, is that right?
A. Yes, and I was duly admitted to practice law in the State of Wisconsin.

14. Q. You consider yourself a qualified interpreter in the English and German languages?
A. Yes.

15. Q. What are your present duties?
A. Pursuant to paragraph 26, SO 81, Headquarters USFET, APO 757, U S Army, dated 4 October 1945, I was assigned to War Crimes Investigating Team 6836 for the purpose of acting as interpreter of German into English and English into German.

ATTEST:

Louis L Croy

D G PASTON
Lt Col, O-189428
Investigator-Examiner

SECRET

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SECRET

WCIT #6836
US Army

Alleged Occurrence: Murder of American and British Prisoners of War

Date: on or about 24 January 1945

At: MAUTHAUSEN Concentration-Camp AUSTRIA

I N T E R R O G A T I O N

Authority: Par 21, SO 146, Hq ETOUSA, dtd 26 May 45; Organization order #270, Hq ETOUSA dtd 24 Apr 45, AG 322, OpGC.

Oaths: Par 9, SO 113, Hq USFA, dtd 27 Nov 1945
The persons hereinafter named, as reporter, interpreter, witness, appeared before the Investigator-Examiner and each was duly sworn by him in the following respective form:

OATH ADMINISTERED TO REPORTER

"You swear that you will faithfully perform the duties of reporter in this investigation now being conducted by me, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

OATH ADMINISTERED TO INTERPRETER

"You swear that you will truthfully interpret in this investigation now being conducted by me, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

OATH ADMINISTERED TO WITNESS

"You swear that the evidence you shall give in this investigation now being conducted by me shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

Name of witness: ALBERT TIEFENBACHER

Date testimony taken: 7 Dec 1945

Place testimony taken: SALZBURG, AUSTRIA, Hq WCIT 6836

Investigator-Examiner: DAVID G FASTOW (Name) Lt Col (Grade) O-189428 (ASN)

Asst Investigator Cross-Examiner: WILLIAM A GORDON (Name) Capt (Grade) O-115402 (ASN)

Reporter: DORIS GOETZEN (Name) Civilian Court Reporter (Grade) (ASN)

Interpreter: LOUIS L CROCK (Name) Pvt A (Grade) A6010206 (ASN)

TESTIMONY OF: _____

Direct examination by:

Session convened at 16,30 hours

AGPD B-45/2900/C2176ABCD

H3382 – 0066

USFA WC - 28
(TIEFENBACHER)

Testimony of: Albert TIEFENBACHER

Direct Examination by: Lt. Col. PASTON

Q. What is your name?
A. Albert TIEFENBACHER.

Q. Where were you born?
A. In SALZBURG, Billweinstrasse 15.

Q. Were you arrested by the Nazis?
A. Yes.

Q. When?
A. 14 June 1938.

Q. Why?
A. In June 1934 I participated in the fight against the Nazi insurrection and at the plebescite in April 1938, one of the canvassers recognized my name. I did not, however, vote at this plebescite.

Q. Who arrested you?
A. Two Gestapo men.

Q. Their names?
A. I do not know. They were German nationals.

Q. Where did they take you?
A. Police Jail. They arrested me with the words: "We just want a little information from you, you will be able to return immediately." They told me that I would be confronted with a woman, but this woman never came and I was taken to DACHAU with the next transport.

Q. How long after you were arrested were you sent to DACHAU ?
A. Two or three days.

Q. Did you have a trial?
A. Before.

Q. You mean before you were sent to DACHAU ?
A. Before I was arrested.

Q. How long before?
A. In 1936.

Q. What was the trial about?
A. Larceny.

Q. Were you guilty?
A. I was convicted in spite of being innocent.

Q. Did you have witnesses?
A. No, they did not believe my witnesses.

Q. Did they say why they did not believe your witnesses?
A. They said that they were all good friends of mine.

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Q. Were there any witnesses against you?
A. Yes, the people from my former place of work.

Q. What did they testify against you?
A. They testified that I had the intention of stealing from a drawer.

Q. They did not testify that you actually stole?
A. No, I was only convicted for attempted larceny.

Q. What was the sentence?
A. 6 months.

Q. Did you start serving it immediately?
A. No.

Q. Why not ?
A. I was working at the time.

Q. When did you start serving that sentence?
A. In LINZ in 1939.

Q. You went to DACHAU in 1938?
A. Yes.

Q. How long did you stay there?
A. 3 weeks.

Q. Then where did you go?
A. MAUTHAUSEN.

Q. How long did you remain in MAUTHAUSEN?
A. Until 1945.

Q. You told us a while ago, that the Gestapo arrested you in 1938.
A. Yes. I was transferred from the concentration camp in MAUTHAUSEN to LINZ about September 1939.

Q. How long did you stay in LINZ?
A. Until after Christmas 1939, and then I was returned to MAUTHAUSEN.

Q. So that outside of the period from September 1939 until after Christmas 1939, you were at MAUTHAUSEN concentration camp from 1938 until May 1945?
A. Yes.

Q. Did you see anybody kill anybody else?
A. Yes.

Q. Give us the names and the dates of those who did the killings and those who were killed?
A. I was employed in the crematorium in MAUTHAUSEN for 3 years as carrier of the dead bodies.

Q. Did you go back to MAUTHAUSEN in January 1940?
A. I returned at Christmas 1939 before the expiration of my term. I was told that I was pardoned for the balance of my term.

SECRET

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H3382 - 0068

Testimony of: Albert TIEFENBACHER

Direct examination by: Lt Col RASTON

Q. What else can you tell us?

A. I always made my little notes to remember those who died in a normal way. I made a mark when he died otherwise.

Q. Do you remember who kept the records showing the number of people who died?

A. One of the prisoners, his name was MARTIN, kept the records of all the people who died.

Q. What happened to those records?

A. Every three weeks they had to be handed over.

Q. To whom?

A. These records were kept threefold for everyone who died, one at the political department, one at the camp, and one at the hospital. At the time of surrender everyone tried to burn the books, but MARTIN's copy was saved after all and given to the Americans.

Q. Who gave them to the Americans?

A. MARTIN gave them to the commander.

Q. Which commander?

A. The American commander.

Q. Do you remember, that before the Americans came in, someone took the books and burned them?

A. I do not know. I think the political leader himself has done it.

Q. I show you these papers. Do you recognize them? (Witness is shown Exhibit Q)

A. Yes. I recognize the handwriting.

Q. Whose handwriting is it?

A. It is the handwriting of IGNAZ PROKOWSKY, a Pole, who also worked in the crematorium. This is PROKOWSKY's handwriting, I recognize it very clearly.

Q. Why did PROKOWSKY keep these records?

A. Because they had to know how many bodies they had to burn so that they could estimate the amount of coal they needed.

Q. I show you these same papers again, marked A, B, C, D, E, on the back of each sheet and containing the signature of another individual. I ask you to sign your name below the other name. (Witness signs his name).

Q. What else can you tell us?

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A. It was always the same. Once, 300 Dutch Jews had to jump down the wall and were killed.

Q. When?

A. About August, September 1942 they arrived, and after three months all of them were gone.

Q. How did they die?

A. They had to jump down 45 meters.

Q. Why did they have to jump down?

A. The guards wanted them to jump down so as to die quicker.

Q. Why?

A. The guards pushed them down when they hesitated to jump.

Q. Why did the guards tell them to jump down?

A. They said: "No use to walk you will be quicker down by jumping down."

Q. Did the guards not know that these people were killed by jumping or being pushed?

A. Of course, they knew.

Q. If they were interested in killing these people why did they not shoot them or gas them?

A. They said the bullet is too good for them.

Q. When did that take place?

A. About August, September 1942, most probably in August.

Q. Why were they brought to MAUTHAUSEN?

A. MAUTHAUSEN was a proper annihilation camp because nobody ever got out of it.

Q. Did you ever hear it called "MORDHAUSEN"?

A. Even letters arrived addressed "MORDHAUSEN" instead of MAUTHAUSEN. Before the opening of the camp there was a Russian prisoners' camp where a lot of the inmates died.

Q. ALTFULDISCH examined the prisoners' mail that came in?

A. Yes.

Q. Was he angry when letters arrived which were addressed "MORDHAUSEN"?

A. No. He only had a smile in his face.

Q. Did ZIEREIS or any of the others become angry?

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A. ZIERIS had nothing to do with the mail, only with that of political prisoners.

Q. But if much mail was received with "MORDHAUSEN", it must have been known to ZIERIS.

A. If much mail arrived they sorted it out and burned it afterwards.

Q. People outside MAUTHAUSEN sending letters to their friends addressing it "MORDHAUSEN", did they not risk punishment?

A. Yes, of course, they fell in disgrace. If the letter was of heavy contents the Gestapo was notified, and they were brought into the camp, too. The relatives of the prisoners always were under surveillance of the Gestapo.

Q. How do you suppose people in Austria used the name "MORDHAUSEN", if the people in Austria did not know what was going on in MAUTHAUSEN?

A. Sometimes, the people outside heard something about the camp by smuggled mail, also through the working commando of the outer camps.

Q. Do you remember who shot the five girls?

A. No. I cannot remember.

Q. Do you remember the Russians or Czech girls who lived just above the crematorium?

A. Yes. I can remember them. KANDUTH was sending them some notes and he said they were foreigners.

Q. Did you see them?

A. No. I never saw them.

Q. Did you see them being shot?

A. No. I have not seen this. I can remember when they shot three girls, but they were Yugoslavs.

Q. Did you see who shot them?

A. One of the members of the commander's staff was always chosen to do that job.

Q. Which one of the commander's staff did this job?

A. Those who were nearest to the commander were picked out and were ordered to carry out the executions.

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Q. And you were able to see through the peephole of the door who did the shooting?

A. Yes. I was able to look through.

Q. Who shot these girls?

A. I did not see who shot them, because I believe they were shot outside the camp.

Q. Do you remember some girls being shot in the execution chamber?

A. No, I cannot remember, because I had a lot to do with these people. There were executions every day.

Q. Do you remember the particular girls who sent this note?

A. Not quite. I just noticed that they sent a note up to the girls with packages of food and cigarettes?

Q. How long did the girls stay there before they were shot?

A. KANDUTH must know this better than I.

Q. Did you ever see the girls?

A. I have seen them taking a walk in the yard and, once, KANDUTH pointed the girls out as being the women he sent the note.

Q. Were they good - looking?

A. Yes. Very much.

Q. Age?

A. About 17 to 24 or 30.

Q. Would 17 to 20 be more accurate?

A. I am not sure, because I was not allowed to speak to them.

Q. For a couple of days before the executions do you know what was going on between the girls and the SS men?

A. I do not know.

Q. Would KANDUTH know?

A. If he wrote the girls notes, he must know it.

Q. If KANDUTH tells us that several SS men were forcibly raping these girls two or three days before their death would he know what he was talking about?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you remember the execution of these girls?

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A. I can only remember when some girls were gassed.

Q. But do you remember when these particular girls were shot?

A. No, I cannot remember.

Q. Do you remember the executions of other girls?

A. Yes, I can.

Q. Tell us about it.

A. I already told you about the executions. There were women who were gassed and men who were shot.

Q. What can you tell us about ZUTTER?

A. I was never in contact with ZUTTER, so I do not know him very much. ZUTTER used to be here and there for short periods only.

Q. And looking through the door of the execution chamber how many times did you see ZUTTER there?

A. We had to carry the dead bodies into the refrigerator room.

Q. And ZUTTER?

A. Some of the political leaders came and said: There is going to be an execution, keep yourself ready.

Q. In what way was ZUTTER connected with the executions?

A. I do not know.

Q. Did you ever see ZUTTER present in the execution room during an execution?

A. Yes. More than once.

Q. How many times approximately?

A. I cannot count it. It was very often that I had to be there at the executions.

Q. Why did ZUTTER have to be present at every execution?

A. The dead body had to be taken right away, and the blood had to be cleaned from the floor.

Q. The question was, why was it necessary for ZUTTER to be present?

A. If he was on duty he always had to be there. Just whoever was on duty, was present. At every execution a chief warden had to be there. Sometimes, if SCHULZ was not present, ZUTTER had to be there.

Q. ZUTTER was not a chief warden?

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A. Sometimes nobody was here at all. It often happened that he just was anxious to see and come down himself.

Q. How do you know that?

A. Many times, ZUTTER called us up on the phone at the crematorium, asking us to let him know when an execution would take place, because he was anxious to witness it.

Q. ZUTTER did not call you on the phone?

A. No. He called ROTH or somebody else.

Q. If ZUTTER called ROTH or somebody else how do you know the conversation that took place.

A. I recognized his voice. When a call came through it could only have been about an execution.

Q. But how do you know that ZUTTER was asking to be notified when an execution would take place?

A. Most of the time the runner came up and asked him, who rang up, so I tried to find out who rang up and he told me some chief warden or BACHMAIER or some other, whoever else had happened to be.

Q. Who set the time for the executions?

A. The political department.

Q. Was that SCHULZ's department?

A. Yes.

Q. From whom did SCHULZ get his orders?

A. From the commandant or his adjutat.

Q. How do you know?

A. The order said if SCHULZ was not there, we had to wait till the commandant or the adjutant arrives, and we had to wait with the execution until they arrived. Sometimes they had to take the prisoners back when the commandant was not here.

Q. How about the adjutant?

A. If the adjutant was there he gave the list with the names and orders of the executions. Often, the execution could not take place, because the medical man or doctor was not there.

Q. Why did they need a doctor?

A. To certify whether the prisoner was shot or hanged.

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Q. How many times did ZUTTER act for the commandant and gave the orders for the executions?

A. I do not know how many times. Sometimes nobody was there, sometimes, he would call on the phone what was to be done. Often, phone calls came through and ROTH was asked to come down, when there had to be an execution.

Q. Who did that?

A. MULLER of the political department. The runner of the prisoners had to search for the various members of the department. ZUTTER just gave orders, called up the political department and they sent out the runner to get hold of the man in charge.

Q. How do you know that ZUTTER gave the orders?

A. Because everybody who came along said that ZUTTER gave this order.

Q. Who is everybody?

A. The block leader WEISE and others. Nobody ever did like to go down to the execution chamber.

Q. Who said that?

A. WEISE and GROSS and TRUM.

Q. To whom did they say that?

A. To the Scharfuhrer. Nobody liked to go, nobody wanted to know anything about it.

Q. What did ZUTTER have to do with it?

A. He was the right hand man of the commandant. He had all the troops under his power, and had to assign the men to the executions.

Q. How do you know that?

A. Everybody knew that, because ZUTTER ran around with his fourrage denoting the office of adjutant he occupied.

Q. Beside being adjutant did you see him do something or hear him say something that would indicate a connection with any execution?

A. I do not know myself. I just heard it from the political department, because there were some other prisoners working there who told me.

Q. Who told you what?

A. Most of the prisoners had prisoners' camp commandos in

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their hands, and they knew right away who would get the commands or would give the commands.

Q. What are the names of those prisoners?

A. HOFFMANN. He told me everything he knew. I knew HOFFMANN very well, so he told me a lot. There were others, but I do not know them too well, so they did not tell me anything. Even I was not allowed to tell anybody anything.

Q. How many times did you see ZUTTER at the executions?

A. ZUTTER was not there too often. He was only present when larger executions took place, about 20 or 30 times in all.

Q. Which big executions?

A. 60 - 80 - 100 - up to 120 or even 150 were the big executions where mostly all of them were present, the commandant, the adjutant, the chief warden, Rapportführer, labor leaders, and sometimes they had some visitors of the Luftwaffe or the Waffen SS. Mostly, when the visitors came they made exhibition executions.

Q. Can you give us an example?

A. If some visitors came, the commandant presented to them the prisoners. These had to take their clothes off, walk stripped in front of the visitors, when the commandant called out the prisoners' names and that they were to be executed.

Q. Was is the usual practice to notify the prisoners that they were going to be executed?

A. Most of the time they had to sign a paper, while they did not know what they signed.

Q. When the visitors were present, the prisoners knew they were to be executed?

A. Mostly, the prisoners did not know what they signed, they just had to sign the blank paper, which was later filled in. Sometimes, I had a chance to speak to a prisoner and I asked him what he thinks is going to happen to him. He said: "I do not know." And I told him that he was going to be executed.

Q. But you said that before an exhibition execution took place, the commandant told the victims they were going to be executed?

A. Only shortly before the execution. They made them line up and told them that they were going to be executed.

Q. Was that only at the exhibition executions?

A. Often. He never read a verdict at all. They just told them they were to be shot. It is true most of the time the prisoners never were told.

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Often they called the prisoners out, and when they lined up, and asked why, they were told that they were to be executed. It was SCHULZ or the chief warden who told them they were to be shot.

Q. When they took people to the gas chamber to be gassed these people were not informed whether they were to be executed?

A. The people who came into the gas chamber mostly never did know.

Q. They were generally given a piece of soap and towel?

A. Most of the time they did not get soap and towel, they were only told, when they would come out they would then have soap and towel. After the gassing the pieces of soap were collected again and placed on the table of the room where they disrobed.

Q. Do you remember, about 24 January 1945, when the Americans and the British were shot?

A. I only remember when they were brought in. They were parachuters. There were so many executions, I do not remember it. It might have been at the time mentioned. I was sick at that time. I have been at the hospital for three months.

Q. Which three months?

A. From November 1944 until February 1945. At that time a transport of 125 Russians was brought in, and they called me out, but I could not go, because I fell sick.

Q. Why did they call you out?

A. Because the others were not enough.

Q. What others?

A. Those working in the crematorium.

Q. What else can you tell us?

A. It was always the same with the executions, either shootings and hangings were daily occurrences. We never had a chance to think it over.

Q. You told us something about injections and dissections. Did any of them involve women who were experimented with?

A. Yes. There were lots of women, even women with children.

Q. Go ahead. You tried to say something else.

A. Lots of these women and children were sent away to the outer camps, because they did not have enough milk for them. It was remarkable we never learned what happened to the women and children.

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Q. What happened to the women and children?

A. They told me they were sent to a woman's camp near WELS, but there was no such place. We never heard anything about them.

Q. Did you see any woman injected or dissected?

A. Yes, I have seen them often down at the hispital.

Q. Why was this done?

A. Just to make room for others, and to experiment with them.

Q. What was the experiment with the women?

A. They just experimented on them with serums for various sicknesses and to watch the reactions on the injected body. The women down at the brothel even got Schnaps and wine, and were then watched as to their reactions, when they were put into contact with sterilized men there whether they were still capable of begetting.

Q. Who were sterilized, the women or the men?

A. The men. They received better food than the others.

Q. What else do you know?

A. In the brothel there was one girl, and one of the doctors performed a caesarian section on her.

Q. Why?

A. Because it would have been too expensive for the state, if the child was born there and the state would have to pay for it.

Q. Why did they not let the child be born in a natural way?

A. They said it was not allowed to bear a child at the camp.

Q. How do you know the doctor performed a caesarian section on this girl?

A. I heard it from the other women. It was the talk of the women afterwards. The girl then died after she bled out, and the body was sent down to be dissected.

Q. Who did that?

A. She was dissected by Dr RICHTER.

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Q. Why was it necessary to dissect her?

A. To learn by experiments.

Q. To learn what?

A. I do not know.

Q. What else can you tell us?

A. It was always the same.

Q. What do you mean "always the same"?

A. Either they sent them away, the sick to other camps, and we never heard anything from them. They mostly returned clothes and ashes, that was all.

Q. What else can you tell us?

A. Often some of the SS men took a ride in four or five cars during the evening, and brought some people in whom they killed.

Q. What people?

A. People from the city nearby who were considered insane. They let them take a cold bath and stand for three or four hours out in the cold. Then they died. If not, then they were killed.

Q. How you know that?

A. In the garage there were prisoners working who told me that the SS took a drive without lights or with false numbers, and they brought in some people.

Q. You never saw any people brought in yourself?

A. Yes, I have seen it myself.

Q. Just what did you personally see yourself?

A. When I came down to the garage I have seen the cars without numbers, a lot of clothes and bunches of hair, because the cars had to be disinfected and cleaned of the blood. Often, a committee came down from BERLIN to choose the invalids from the prisoners. They were then gathered in a transport, their files with them, and we never heard about them anymore.

Q. These people that were killed, were they supposed to be insane?

A. Yes. They had to be done away with since there was not enough food for them.

Q. Who made the decision whether the people were sane or insane?

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A. The doctors in that village where they got these people from.

Q. What else can you tell us?

A. Well, that is just about all, right now.

Session adjourned 1730 hours.

/s/ TIEFENBACHER

ATTEST:

/s/ DAVID G PASTON
Lt Col QMC
Investigator-Examiner

I certify that the above testimony was translated to the witness in his own language, prior to his signature, which appears above.

/s/ Louis L GROY
Tec 4 46010206
Interpreter

3845 PS 11

H3382 - 0080

USFA WC - 28
(TIEFENBACHER)

Q. Do you remember a special car which was operated between MAUTHAUSEN and GUSEN, in which prisoners were gassed on the journey?
A. Yes, the commander personally went with this car. GASSACKI put the gas into this car.

Q. How many people could be put into this car?
A. Twenty or thirty.

Q. Did this car belong to SS Untersturmfuehrer WASCHINSKI?
A. This car was just like a police car, only constructed air-tight.

Q. Did ZIERAIS drive this car?
A. Yes, I saw him myself.

Q. ZIERAIS himself drove the car, but he did not put the gas into the car?
A. The whole poison was in the hands of WASCHINSKI.

Q. But ZIERAIS knew that the prisoners were being gassed?
A. Yes, he usually gave the orders.

Q. The gassing of prisoners was due to the urging of SS KREBSBACH?
A. I think that they both were in agreement about it, since they were the best of friends. If there were too many people, they simply got rid of them.

Q. Do you remember the last 800 people who were killed by a club or through drowning?
A. Yes, I know how people were led into the gas chamber and hot and cold water applied on them, and then they had to line up and were beaten until they died.

Q. Do you remember the gassing of 640 prisoners in block 31 in GUSEN?
A. No, I was only in MAUTHAUSEN.

Q. Do you remember FLIEGEL (?) ?
A. I know them from MAUTHAUSEN, but I do not know what they did at GUSEN.

Q. Do you know LUKSBERG?
A. LUKSBERG was a known beater.

Q. Did he have anything to do with the gassing of 640 in block 31 at GUSEN?
A. I do not know.

Q. Do you know SEIDLER?
A. I knew a block leader SEIDLER of MAUTHAUSEN; he worked in the cell block. Then he went to duty in GUSEN.

Q. Do you know KILLERMANN? Roll-call leader?
A. No.

Q. Do you know JENSCH ?
A. He went to GUSEN, but I do not know anything about him.

SECRET

Testimony of: FRIEDRICH SCHMIDT, Interpreter.

Direct examination by: Lt Col PASTON.

Q: When and where were you born ?
A: 10 April, 1911 in CRASNA BRESNA (Czechoslovakia).

Q: How long did you live in Czechoslovakia ?
A: Seventeen years. The rest of my life I lived in foreign countries: Switzerland, Australia, USA, and Germany.

Q: In these foreign countries did you have occasion to speak the German and English languages ?
A: Yes. Up to the age of fourteen, I visited German Schools in Czechoslovakia. In Switzerland, I studied the French language in a College of Christian Brothers. In Australia and USA, I conversed in English.

Q: Did you have occasion to talk over a period of many years with people in German, English and French ?
A: Yes.

Q: Did you experience any difficulty in interpreting in English, German, French and Russian ?
A: No.

Q: Have you had any experience in acting as interpreter in the English, German, French and Russian languages ?
A: Yes, I was interpreter for French and English at the Airport in MUNICH, interpreter for Russian and German in Russia for the German Wehrmacht. Furthermore, I acted as an interpreter-receptionist in different hotels. After the surrender, in April 1945, near MIESBACH (MUNICH) I acted as interpreter for the 101 Airborne Division, Military Police Headquarters, Provost Marshal at BERCHTESGADEN and BADGASTEIN until September 1945.

Friedrich S C H M I D T

ATTEST:

D G PASTON
Lt Col O-189426
Investigator-Examiner.

SECRET

H3382 - 0082

USFA - WC - 28 SECRET

WCIT #6836
US Army

Alleged Occurrence: Murder of American and British Prisoners of War

Date: On or about 24 January 1945

At: MAUTHAUSEN Concentration Camp, Austria

I N T E R R O G A T I O N

Authority: Par 21, SO 146, Hq ETOUSA, dtd 26 May 45; Organization order #270, Hq ETOUSA dtd 24 Apr 45, AG 322, OpGC.

Oaths: The persons hereinafter named, as reporter, interpreter, witness, appeared before the Investigator-Examiner and each was duly sworn by him in the following respective form:

OATH ADMINISTERED TO REPORTER

"You swear that you will faithfully perform the duties of reporter in this investigation now being conducted by me, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

OATH ADMINISTERED TO INTERPRETER

"You swear that you will truthfully interpret in this investigation now being conducted by me, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

OATH ADMINISTERED TO WITNESS

"You swear that the evidence you shall give in this investigation now being conducted by me shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

Name of witness: ALBERT TIEFENBACHER

Date testimony taken: 10 DECEMBER 1945

Place testimony taken: SALZBURG, AUSTRIA, Hq WCIT 6836

Investigator-Examiner: DAVID G PASTOR (Name) Lt Col (Grade) O - 189428 (ASN)

Asst Investigator Cross-Examiner: WILLIAM A GORDON (Name) Capt (Grade) O - 115408 (ASN)

Reporter: MARIANNE SEMMELROGGE (Name) Civilian (Grade) Court Reporter (ASN)

Interpreter: FRIEDRICH SCHMIDT (Name) CIVILIAN (Grade) Interpreter (ASN)

~~TESTIMONY~~ OF: _____

~~Direct examination by~~:

Session convened at 1430 hours.

SECRET

AGPD 8-45/2500/C2176ABCD

SECRET

H3382 – 0083

In winter with a temperature of 30 to 35 degrees SPATZENEGGER forced them to take off their gloves, and jackets down to their shirts, were they had to work so hard in order to get warm and to keep moving. Most of them were in a frozen condition, such as frozen noses, ears, feet etc. He sent most of the prisoners through the guard-chain, then they did not have to suffer any longer. Oberscharfuehrer HASENHERD and MUELLER were well known in the camp as famous butchers. The leader of the desinfection section, KANTNER, the supervisors of the kitchen STRUNG and STRIEGEL, administrator SCHWEIGER, the repair-shop foreman GROSS, the gardener HEINZEL and the store-keeper Oberscharfuehrer STROBL were the sadists and torturers of the prisoners. Hauptscharfuehrer KOKER and SEIDL used their own methods to torture the people.

Q. Did you see that personally ?
A. Yes, yes, the prisoners often showed me their wounds.

Q. But you only saw the wounds, and not the action ?
A. I saw the wounds, and they actually told me.

Q. But what did you see yourself ?
A. I was present in the laundry when SEIDL said: "Is this ironed ? There is a crease in it, come here". Then he burnt the prisoner with the iron. Then prisoners were forced into a cold bath or into a washing drum, only to torture them, just for the sake of his sadistic inclinations. SAUER, the first commander of camp Mauthausen andthe camp commander SCHOENGRABER taught the block leaders how to treat the prisoners by personal demonstration. Once SAUER caused a prisoner to fall off the roof of a barrack by hitting him with a wooden plank. He was a carpenter himself, and on that occasion he showed him how a carpenter should work. But SCHOENGRABER was not to be outdone and he used the following methods: The prisoners were forced to carry sand up the stairs at double time and many collapsed from exhaustion; they had to carry heavy stones until they collapsed unconscious. During the construction of the camp, in order to hasten the building work, the SS guards were ordered to have the prisoners run the gauntlet, that is, the prisoners, carrying heavy stones, had to run between the guards who were posted from left to right. The prisoners were bayonetted by the guards as they passed them.
The whole thing in my estimation, was mass-murder of human beings on a vast scale.
HIEDENBAYER was known as the worst SS man in the camp, who mistreated the prisoners.

/s/ ALBERT TIEFENBACHER

ATTEST :

/s/ DAVID G PASTON
Lt Col QMC
Investigator-Examiner

I certify that the above testimony was translated to the witness in his own language, prior to his signature, which appears above.

/s/ LOUIS L GROY
Tec 4 46010206
Interpreter

SECRET

H3382 - 0084

Their valuables were taken from them by FUNKUCKER and ZIRNKIS after which the bodies were cremated.

We were strictly ordered not to talk to any of the prisoners about the events of this night to avoid any trouble in the camp. The remaining 36 American pilots were fetched by the "Wehrmacht" in a fortnight's time and interrogated. But they could not get any information out of them, so they were sent away and did not return to the camp, so I do not know what happened to them. But it is probable, they had their hair cut, were dressed in prison clothes and then beaten to death, poisoned, or hanged.

I know of such cases, as it happened before several hundred times.

Q. Is there any chance, that the American pilots might have been brought to some camp by the "Wehrmacht"?
A. Yes.

Q. Why do you say that the American soldiers might have been beaten to death.
A. It had happened that unknown people had been brought to the bunker.

Q. How many living soldiers were taken away by the "Wehrmacht"?
A. Thirty-six.

Q. When did this happen?
A. Fourteen days after the raid in the afternoon.

Q. How many bodies were brought in by the SS ?
A. Four or five bodies.

Q. When was this?
A. 6 o'clock in the evening.

Q. Do you remember if among those bodies were some taken away by the "Wehrmacht" in the afternoon ?
A. I do not think so, because Wehrmacht and SS could not stand each other.

Q. Is there the possibility that the 36 taken away by the Wehrmacht are still alive today?
A. Maybe but I doubt it.

Q. Why do you suppose that some of the American pilots might have been gassed or hanged or beaten to death?
A. I presume it.

Q. Why?
A. I suppose so, because commander ZIRNKIS brought those two dead men in his car that night. It is very likely that others were killed too, because the SS were capable of any infamy. At the time of the HEYDRICH affair in the Protektorat former CSR) about 30 women were gassed and the men or officers present were shot.

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The women were told they would be discharged, and would have to take a bath and in the meantime their belongings would be packed.

Q. Who told the women ?
A. Commander ZIEREIS remarked that the women were going to be discharged. Of course, none of them ever returned from their bath.
Dr. ERKENBACH observed that gassing would be more hygienic, and the other physicians consented to it, calling it a more humane way of killing.
Bathing, injecting, gassing and the so-called "trip to the unknown" were daily occurences.
Hauptscharfuehrer KIPPKEN, called "the boxer", the most feared man in the camp used to smash the prisoners' jaw and teeth. He belonged to the annihilation-group acting outside the camp. Because of a carelessness of my chief, Hauptscharfuehrer ROTH, leader of the crematorium, one day I found a letter with the following content:

"You are requested to present yourself at 10 a.m. at the ROSSAUERLAENDE to lead a transport of 250 prisoners.

signed: Annihilation-group N.P.H.
Signature illegible.

This letter was lying crumpled near the coke-oven. I found it, read it, and then burned it.
Once I asked ROTH why he did not go to VIENNA, but he would not speak about that. Anyhow I knew the reason from the letter. Then he left for eight to fourteen days, saying that he is going to attend an instructive-course.
I answered: I know the ROSSAUERLAENDE, and I know what you are going to do there.
It could only be something like "Gestapo-service", the Gestapo being located there. After which he answered that he lived nearby. He was very careful in his talk and did not say much.

Q. When do you say, ROTH went to VIENNA ?
A. At the end of May 1943.

Q. While he was away, who was in charge of the camp?
A. The commander of GUSEN, I do not know his name. Leader of the labour-service WEISE, who was very rough and capable of any crime was mostly present at the interrogations in the office of the Chief Warden and used the following methods:
He beat them, tied them to a post, bound their feet, then the chair was pulled away and he threw his weight onto the prisoner in order to double the weight the prisoner had to bear with his tied arms.
Most of them talked then and admitted everything, even things they never committed, only to be relieved of their tortures. Then they were brought to the bunker and after two or three days they were dead.
The same methods were used by "Rapport"-leader TRUM. Leader of the chiefward STREITWIESER, Unterscharfuehrer at that time, incited his dog to tear up the prisoners. It happened as follows: He went through the camp with his dog, which, at the call "Pack inn" (seize him) threw himself onto the prisoner and tore him up. When he thought the prisoner was hurt enough by this maltreatment, he called his dog back, knowing that in most of the cases the dog-bites caused death. Chief Warden BAUMGARTEN acted in the same way with his dog "LORD". At the interrogations too, one of the dogs usually was present.

Q. Who had the big dog and who had the small one ?
A. STREITWIESER had the small one, BACHMAYER's dog was a big one. Previously there were two big dogs, but Sturmfuehrer SCHUETZ shot one of them.

Q. Why did he shoot him ?
A. Because the dog had attacked him.
According to what they wanted to get out of the prisoners, they were tortured. I remember the prisoner BACHER, Paul, a Viennese, who was recaptured after three weeks and brought back to MAUTHAUSEN, where he was interrogated at the camp. STREITWIESER said at the interrogation: "To cut a long story short, we shall make him talk very soon". So Arbeitsdienstfuehrer PRUN made it short with him, tied him up and let him hang with his head down, while he shook him. BACHMAYER had a big dog with him, which he incited to attack the man, who was helpless. At this, the prisoner was shamefully torn and hurt. The blood ran down his nose, eyes and mouth. Then they untied him, 2 prisoners came along and carried the body to the hospital.

Q. Was he dead ?
A. No, just unconscious. A prisoner brought him to the sick room, because he was still unconscious. There he was treated and received injections. He was there for two days and was continually visited by the leader of the political department, SCHULZ, and other leaders of the camp (Schutzhaftlagerfuehrer). On these occasions, he was interrogated by them, but they never received an answer. Then he was brought to the cell block where he died. As far as I could find out his death was the result of the mistreatment.
After that, I picked him up and brought him to the crematorium.

Q. When you took him, was he dead or still alive ?
A. Already dead.

Q. Were you able to determine by what manner he was executed ?
A. From the effects of the wounds. The blood was on his head. He also had the dog's bites on his arms.

Q. What else ?
A. Hauptscharfuehrer SPATZENEGGER in charge of the command at the quarry "WIENERGRABEN" was one of the biggest criminals that ever lived. It is impossible to describe his individual acts. Only some examples: Jews were forced by him to jump down a depth of 45 m, into ice-cold water, to carry heavy stones etc. He gave them a rope and said to them: "Hang yourself, that is much better". Usually it was carried out.

Q. Did you see SPATZENEGGER giving the rope to somebody with your own eyes and did you actually hear him say so ?
A. Yes.

Q. How could you see it, since you were in the crematorium and he was in the quarry "WIENERGRABEN" ?
A. I was called down, because I had to count the number of the dead, who were lying there, and I had to carry them away. The bodies also were photographed.

Q. Who sent forthe photographer ?
A. He was called by SPATZENEGGER to photograph the bodies.

Q. Where were the photos kept and why ?
A. In a barrack, there they were also developed and a report had to be sent to BERLIN.

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SECRET

H3382 - 0087

Testimony of: FRIEDRICH SCHMIDT, Interpreter.

Direct examination by: Lt Col PASTON.

Q: When and where were you born ?
A: 10 April, 1911 in CRASNA BRESNA (Czechoslovakia).

Q: How long did you live in Czechoslovakia ?
A: Seventeen years. The rest of my life I lived in foreign countries: Switzerland, Australia, USA, and Germany.

Q: In these foreign countries did you have occasion to speak the German and English languages ?
A: Yes. Up to the age of fourteen, I visited German Schools in Czechoslovakia. In Switzerland, I studied the French language in a College of Christian Brothers. In Australia and USA, I conversed in English.

Q: Did you have occasion to talk over a period of many years with people in German, English and French ?
A: Yes.

Q: Did you experience any difficulty in interpreting in English, German, French and Russian ?
A: No.

Q: Have you had any experience in acting as interpreter in the English, German, French and Russian languages ?
A: Yes, I was interpreter for French and English at the Airport in MUNICH, interpreter for Russian and German in Russia for the German Wehrmacht. Furthermore, I acted as an interpreter-receptionist in different hotels. After the surrender, in April 1945, near MIESBACH (MUNICH) I acted as interpreter for the 101 Airborne Division, Military Police Headquarters, Provost Marshal at BERCHTESGADEN and BADGASTEIN until September 1945.

Friedrich S C H M I D T

ATTEST:

D G PASTON
Lt Col O-1304428
Investigator-Examiner.

SECRET

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SECRET

USFA WC - 26
(TIEFENBACHER)

Q. Having told us about ZIERIS and the doctors, now tell us about somebody else?
A. The block leaders received three days' furlough and money premiums each time they killed a prisoner.

Q. Which block leaders?
A. I have written it all down and even have the signatures of the doctors.

Q. Where have you got this?
A. MARTIN, the manager of the Gas Works in INNSBRUCK was the scrivener at the hospital and he has exact notes about the prisoners who died a natural death and those who were killed.

Q. Is he in INNSBRUCK now?
A. Yes.

Q. Was he a prisoner, too?
A. Yes, he had to keep the books of the hospital.

Q. How do you know that he retained the books after the capitulation and after MAUTHAUSEN was liberated by the Americans?
A. He gave the Americans a statement, which took him three weeks to write.

Q. Whom else did you know?
A. I knew all of them. The doctors were changed around, to GUSEN, for instance.

Q. Did you know a prisoner named HANS DIETER?
A. There was a man from LINZ, who escaped by hiding in the sick barracks. He was scheduled to be shot.

Q. Did he come from Germany?
A. No, from LINZ. There were 35 men. They were all shot, only he escaped.

Q. Did you know a prisoner Richard DIETL?
A. I know of a man from LINZ, who had hidden himself.

Q. Then you were referring to DIETL and not DIETER?
A. I do not know exactly whether the name was DIETER or DIETL. DIETL came with a group of 63. They wanted to liquidate 35.

Q. Did you know SCHARRER?
A. His name sounds familiar to me, but we had very little contact with the prisoners, as we had to sleep in the block and had our food brought to us.

Q. Did you know ZELGER?
A. No.

Q. Did you know a Mrs. FUERTEL and her daughter?
A. There were Czech women gassed, but we did not get the list of their names. I did not have anything to do with the books.

Q. Do you remember the Gestapo man POETSCHER?
A. Yes, from LINZ Gestapo.

SECRET

H3382 - 0089

SECRET

USFA WC - 28
(TIEFENBACHER)

Q. Do you remember Karl SCHWALL in block 16?
A. What was he?

Q. A prisoner?
A. MAUTHAUSEN had 36 blocks and the prisoners were only called by numbers.

Q. Do you remember EIGRUBER?
A. EIGRUBER and KALTENBRUNNER were from LINZ.

Q. Did you ever see them in MAUTHAUSEN?
A. I saw KALTENBRUNNER very often.

Q. How many times?
A. He came from time to time and went through the crematorium.

Q. About how many times?
A. Three or four times.

Q. On any occasion when he came through, did you hear him say anything to anybody?
A. When KALTENBRUNNER arrived most prisoners had to disappear, only certain people were introduced to him.

Q. Did you hear KALTENBRUNNER say anything to ZIERELS?
A. No, I was never so close to him. The carriers of the dead had do disappear when visitors were there, only the two firemen were allowed to remain in the crematorium.

Q. Do you remember WOLFRAM?
A. He was a medic.

Q. What do you know about him?
A. WOLFRAM gave many of the deadly injections to people.

Q. Do you remember ECKERMANN?
A. I know a block-leader ECKER.

Q. Do you remember the gas chamber camouflaged as a bath house?
A. Yes, we always helped to carry the dead from the gas chamber.

Q. There were no shower baths in the chamber?
A. Yes. Cold and warm water was supposed to come out of them, but the flow of the water could be regulated from the outside of the room and mostly the water was turned off. On the outside of the room was the gas reservoir and two gas pipes led from the outside into the room. There was a slot at the back and the gas emanated from this slot.

Q. Gas never came from the showers?
A. All the showers were plugged. It was just to make the effect that the prisoners were entering a bath-room.

Q. Was this gas chamber built by SS Hauptsturmfuehrer Dr KREBSBACH?
A. I do not know.

SECRET

H3382 - 0090

USFA NC - 26
(TIEFENBACHER)

Q. Do you know anything about JENSCH murdering 700 prisoners in GUSEN by having them stand at a temperature of 12 degrees centigrade for for one hour or more?
A. This was usual if a transport arrived. The sick got two or three hot baths and were chased into the open cold air.

Q. Do you remember KIESSWETTER, who murdered several hundred prisoners by injections of gasolene..... calcium sulphate and evipan?
A. He was at GUSEN, not at MAUTHAUSEN.

Q. Do you remember when Dr RICHTER was sent by ZIEREIS to a camp GUSENSKIRCHEN?
A. RICHTER was declared insane. He once stood in front of a picture of the Fuehrer and said: "Everything is lost anyway", and he was declared insane and disappeared for two or three months and then he came back.

Q. Was Dr KREBSBACH ejected from the SS because he entered that organization under false pretenses?
A. I do not know.

Q. Did you ever see EIGRUBER in MAUTHAUSEN?
A. I think I saw him. The visitors were announced and the names, but I do not know whether they were these people.

Q. Did you ever see HIMMLER in MAUTHAUSEN?
A. Yes.

Q. Who was with him?
A. The whole staff.

Q. Was KALTENBRUNNER with him?
A. KALTENBRUNNER is a dark fellow, I know him from the crematorium, but I cannot say whether he was with HIMMLER. I remember HIMMLER by his monocle.

Q. Did you ever see SCHRADNADE there?
A. No.

Session adjourned at 1830 hours

Albert TIEFENBACHER

ATTEST:

DAVID G EASTON
Lt Col QMC
Investigator-Examiner

I certify that the above testimony was translated to the witness in his own language, prior to his signature, which appears above.

Louis L CROX
Tec 4 46010206
Interpreter

SECRET

Alleged Occurrence: Murder of American and British Prisoners of War
On or about 24 January 1945

WCIT #6836
US Army

Date:

At: MAUTHAUSEN, Concentration Camp, AUSTRIA.

I N T E R R O G A T I O N

Authority: Par 21, SO 146, Hq ETOUSA, dtd 26 May 45;
Organization order #270, Hq ETOUSA dtd 24 Apr 45,
AG 322, OpGC
Par. 8, SO 113, Hq USFA, dtd 27 November 1945

Oaths: The persons hereinafter named, as reporter, interpreter, witness, appeared before the Investigator-Examiner and each was duly sworn by him in the following respective form:

OATH ADMINISTERED TO REPORTER

"You swear that you will faithfully perform the duties of reporter in this investigation now being conducted by me, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

OATH ADMINISTERED TO INTERPRETER

"You swear that you will truthfully interpret in this investigation now being conducted by me, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

OATH ADMINISTERED TO WITNESS

"You swear that the evidence you shall give in this investigation now being conducted by me shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so Help you God?" Response: "I do."

Name of witness: Albert TIEFENBACHER

Date testimony taken: 1o December 1945

Place testimony taken: SALZBURG, AUSTRIA, Hq WCIT 6836

Investigator-Examiner: David G. PASTON (Name) Lt.Col. (Grade) O - 189428 (ASN)

Asst Investigator Cross-Examiner: William A GORDEN (Name) Capt (Grade) O-115408 (ASN)

Reporter: Johanna SUESS (Name) Civilian Court Reporter (Grade) (ASN)

Interpreter: Friedrich SCHMIDT (Name) Civilian Interpreter (Grade) (ASN)

TESTIMONY OF:

Direct examination by:

Session convened at: 1000 hours.

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SECRET

AGPO 8-45/2500/C2176ABCD

SECRET

H3382 - 0092

USFA WC - 28 (T II - TIEFENBACHER)

Q. How did you know that HIEDERHAYER had placed the rope around the neck of the prisoners and that they had died this way?

A. I heard every word in the crematory downstairs, because upstairs there was only metal sheeting laid down on the passage and thus I was able to hear every word.
There were prisoners in block 20 who were not registered and they were the victims of these constables. According to their whims and moods, they had to stand so long under a cold shower until they fell unconscious or dead. They also came with machine-pistols and shot at will into the crowd. The bodies were burned at once. As far as I know, there were about 1000 prisoners, the greater part Russian officers and generals and also Yugoslavian and Polish officers. They were ordered to shovel down the snow from the roof of the barracks. They had already decided to try to escape. They shovelled the snow in steps to the wall, plastered the guard with missiles and escaped over the wall. They climed up to the guard located on a tower, threw it down and shot at the guard-chain with a machine-gun and spread over the whole front-line to the next tower guard. Meanwhile the connecting sentries ran away and so the prisoners got the weapons left behind and escaped with these weapons. Alarm was given and pursuit taken up immediately. Those found were shot on the spot. Those of them who did not try to escape, were killed at once. One part escaped successfully with the aid of stolen sledges and horses. A Russian Colonel-General accompanied by high-ranking officers had a lucky escape. I don't know the name of the Russian General but I know, that the attempt to escape was instigated by these Russian and Polish officers. It took two or three days for the fire brigade of the camp to carry away the bodies lying around and a fire-man managed to escape. About 700 broke out, 450 to 500 of whom were shot during the attempt to escape. The rest succeeded in gaining their liberty. Within a radius of 100 km, the whole area was combed by the SS, but no more were recaptured or found.

During the first big attack on LINZ in July/August 1944, about 24 planes were shot down. The crews were shot while descending with their parachutes or after they landed. Those who succeeded in landing did not give themselves up or escaped in the forest.

All the prisoners had to line up at the wall, were searched and then brought to the cells.

At night about 0200 hours SS mess sergeant FÜRBUCHER and camp leader ZIEREIS arrived in the latter's private car. In the rear seats of the car were two American pilots, who had been shot.

KANDUTH, the bearer of the corpses, and I brought the bodies to the crematorium, where they were undressed.

SECRET

H3382 - 0093

USFA WC - 28 (T II - TIEFENBACHER)

10 December 1945

Q. Did you make notes of anything which you want to tell us about?
A. I have only made short notes.

Q. Please tell us all you know?
A. What I know is this: I have noted the names of the two physicians which I had forgotten at the last meeting. They are: Dr BEMICHEN and Dr HEIM.

Q. Go ahead.
A. They both liked to operate and inject and bring themselves to the fore. Principally they gave injections with Evipan, gasoline and Formalin.

Q. Tell us the whole story.
A. Both physicians liked to kill persons suffering from tuberculosis, by means of injections. That was the so-called discharge into the beyond and not into liberty. "Arbeit macht frei." They also sent 45 persons suffering from TB and gangrene into the forest to gather wood and berries. But the forest was surrounded by SS-constables with machine guns. The sick persons were led in, the leader retired, and then the machine guns were put into action until all 45 lay dead on the ground. This was in July 1943.
Q. Can you tell us some names?
A. Amongst others, the following names: MUELLER, TRUM, WEISE, STEIGE, JOEGER, NOGEL, SEIDL, ECKER, NIPPEN. I then had to fetch the bodies, if any were still alive, unload them in front of the crematorium, where they were then carried into the refrigerator room. There the medic was waiting and the live victims were dispatched to the next world by means of an injection.

Q. Can you tell us who gave this injection and did you see it yourself?
A. Dr RICHTER. I saw it with my own eyes. Unterscharfuehrer PROKSCH, who was NIEDERMAYER'S subordinate, was his true and faithful servant, who together with him, killed prisoners by mistreatment, chicanery or strangling with a rope. Often they gave a rope to the prisoner with the words: "Hang yourself, that is better for you, otherwise we must help". Many died this way.

Q. Did this happen often?
A. It happened more than once, because I had to take off the ropes from the bodies and to give it to NIEDERMAYER personally, because he needed it again for further use. Or if NIEDERMAYER was absent, I had to leave the ropes in the cell.

SECRET

H3382 – 0094

USFA WC - 28
(TIEFENBACHER)

Q. What job were you given when you arrived at MAUTHAUSEN ?
A. When I returned I had water in my legs (dropsy) and I got a rest for 8 days until January 1940.

Q. Then what job did you have?
A. At the hospital they said they needed a strong carrier for the bodies.

Q. Who told you?
A. The Kapo.

Q. What was his name?
A. I cannot remember the name of the Kapo. He was from Vienna and he introduced me to Dr KREBS and suggested me for this job.

Q. Did you have a talk with Dr KREBS?
A. He just looked at me and said that I should begin to-morrow.

Q. Then what happened?
A. There were four carriers of bodies. We had to carry the bodies of people who had died at the barracks or who had died at the chain of guards or who had been torn by the dogs. Ordinarily the bodies were sent to LINZ or STEYR for cremation.

Q. Go ahead.
A. Then the bodies lay in state for inspection by their relatives. KRAMER, the adjutant, always accompanied the relatives at these inspections and told these people that the deceased was a very good worker, but that he had refused to eat.

Q. Was not ZUTTER the adjutant at this time?
A. No, KRAMER. ZUTTER was his successor. KRAMER went to a sub-camp at AUSCHWITZ in 1942 or 1943 and ZUTTER became adjutant.

Q. Who else worked with you in the crematorium?
A. A certain KANDUTH, Johann; POLSTER, Johann; SUSCK, Franz.

Q. Where did SUSCK come from?
A. From RATISCH. POLSTER is from Lower Austria, near SIEGMUNDSHERBERG. Later on Ignaz SCHAFOWSKI and THATER, two Poles came from Poland.

Q. Who else?
A. Then towards the end, we carriers of the dead were relieved by Jews.

Q. When were you relieved?
A. August 1944.

Q. And what were the names of the Jews who relieved you?
A. Two survivors are in LINZ. The name of one was Willy and the other was a tall dark man who is with KANDUTH in LINZ. KANDUTH's address here in SALZBURG is Kleingmain, Soloristrasse 13.

Q. Who else?
A. A certain Leo..... a teacher from Poland. He was transferred to Poland and was indicted for attempted high treason.

SECRET

SECRET

H3382 - 0095

Q. Who else?
A. I did not meet anybody else in the crematorium.

Q. Did you know ORNSTEIN?
A. Oh yes, ORNSTEIN is a tall dark fellow who lives with KANDUTH in LINZ.

Q. Did ORNSTEIN also work in the crematorium?
A. Yes.

Q. Can you remember anybody else?
A. There were carriers of the dead, who carried the bodies from the hospital to the crematorium.

Q. Do you know their names?
A. No, because they were changed continuously. That was customary in the camp, to prevent anybody from getting an inside picture.

Q. After you left in August 1944, what job did you get?
A. I worked in the disinfection department.

Q. Were the Nazis afraid that you might tell what you had seen in the crematorium?
A. Yes, they also told us that we would never leave the camp alive. We carried the bodies of people who had been strangled, or hung, or torn by dogs. I believe a man from SALZBURG of the name of NIEDERMAYER, was in charge of the cell-block.

Q. What did you see that NIEDERMAYER did?
A. Strangle them with cord until they died.

Q. When was that?
A. In 1943. The room above the crematorium was connected with the crematorium by a man-hole plate. I could hear every word spoken in the room above through this man-hole plate and I could listen to all the interrogations in the room above.

Q. I want you to tell us the date when you saw NIEDERMAYER strangle somebody to death.
A. The name of the victim was MATACHAS, a Viennese, as well as a Czech and a German named ZIERLICH. I have already made a statement to SANMER, an inmate of MAUTHAUSEN, who took charge of the cell-block after the liberation by the Americans.

Q. When did NIEDERMAYER strangle these people?
A. August or September 1943.

Q. Just what did you see NIEDERMAYER do?
A. On this occasion we saw and heard from the window.

Q. How do you know that it was NIEDERMAYER'S voice?
A. Because nobody was allowed to enter the cell-block except we two carriers of bodies.

Q. How do you know that it was NIEDERMAYER'S voice?
A. Because we heard every word so clearly.

SECRET

SECRET

H3382 - 0096

USFA WC - 28
(TIEFENBACHER)

Q. Over what period of time did you see NIEDERMAYER kill at least 200 persons?

A. Within the period of my work as carrier of the dead.

Q. Did you see ALTFULDISH?
A. Yes.

Q. Did you see ALTFULDISCH kill anybody?
A. No, I do not know what ALTFULDISCH did, he was always a very quiet man.

Q. Did you ever see the adjutant ZUTTER kill anybody?
A. No.

Q. Tell us anything else you personally saw where people were killed, giving us the dates as near as possible, and the names of the person who did the killings, and if you know them, the names of the victims?
A. ZIEREIS. If ZIEREIS was in a good mood, he took the rifle away from a bad marksman and did the shootings himself. In the year 1942-1943 a transport of 300 persons arrived, who were all executed. I remember how the victims were lined up in four rows to be shot. On this occasion, ZIEREIS fired at least 10 shots. Sometimes the prisoners begged for their lives, because they pleaded that they were innocent, then ZIEREIS personally ordered them to be given 25 lashes before they were shot. I heard how ZIEREIS said to the guards, referring to the Dutch Jews: "If these people carry the stones too slowly, throw them over the edge and kill them". I also heard how he ordered the doctors to get rid of their sick by injections, if there were too many sick.

Q. Which doctors?
A. Dr RICHTER, KREBSBOCK, HERBST, RACHE, WOLTER.

Q. Did the doctors do it?
A. Yes.

Q. How do you know?
A. Because we had to take the victims from the table into the next room.

Q. From the table in what room?
A. From the dressing room.

Q. Into what room?
A. Into an adjacent room, which was used as sterilizing room.

Q. And what happened in this latter room?
A. There they remained, because the next victim was called in under the pretence that he would get a physical examination.

Q. And then?
A. And so on, one after another until the 20 or 30 who were on the list had been executed. Those on the list were mostly people who were sick and too weak to work.

SECRET

SECRET

H3382 – 0097

USFA WC - 28
(TIEFENBACHER)

Q. Did NIEDERMAYER kill all five?
A. In co-operation with ZIERIS, STRAUSS and BACHMAYER.

Q. Maybe ZIERIS, BACHMAYER or STRAUSS did the killings and not NIEDERMAYER.
A. NIEDERMAYER brought himself to the fore very diligently.

Q. On this particular occasion, there is no doubt that 5 people were strangled to death.
A. No doubt at all.

Q. I want to know for certain just what NIEDERMAYER contributed towards causing the death of these five people.
A. Each of them were given 5 minutes to consider if they would hang themselves and were given a rope. Then they were ordered to lie down on a bunk. I only heard then how this bunk was shoved away and I heard the the sound of the impact of the heels at the kicking. Later on I heard the group leave the building. ZIERIS said to NIEDERMAYER: "Come with us to the canteen and get as much to drink as you want, you did a good job".

Q. Did ZIERIS say to NIEDERMAYER: "you did a good job"?
A. Yes.

Q. How did you know that NIEDERMAYER actually killed any of these five and not ZIERIS, BACHMAYER or STRAUSS?
A. It was his job to get rid of those who were in the cell-block.

Q. Outside of it being his job and outside of what ZIERIS said, how do you know it was NIEDERMAYER who actually killed any of these five people?
A. Because I saw how he mistreated other people.

Q. Can you tell us of a single instance that you personally saw NIEDERMAYER kill anybody?
A. I saw at the executions of Russians, who were killed by shots in their necks, how NIEDERMAYER killed these people.

Q. Where were you standing when you saw it?
A. There is a bullseye in the door of the refrigerator room and from this bulls-eye I could see the victim and two feet behind the victim, I could see NIEDERMAYER and ROTH kill them.

Q. About how many people did you see NIEDERMAYER kill?
A. NIEDERMAYER was usually present at all executions.

Q. About how many people did you see NIEDERMAYER kill?
A. As far as I can judge, at least 200.

Q. Who were these people?
A. Russian officers, Poles, Czechs, Jugoslavians.

Q. Why were they killed?
A. Because they had fought as partisans and they were captured as P/Ws.

Q. Did any of them receive a trial?
A. No.

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Then they took out the brain and cut through, and they weighed it. Then they opened the chest, took out the lungs and compared them with the X-ray chart which had formerly been made, and saw how the injections of calcium had taken effect. Then they took out the tongue, held it in their hands and studied it. After that the liver etc was removed and studied for signs of cancer etc. Originally they had injected germs into healthy people and wanted to know the effects.

Q. Did they learn anything from all these experiments?
A. According to my judgment, all these doctors were incompetent.

Q. Had they learned anything as a result of these experiments?
A. On this occasion they learned. They said that this was cheap material.

Q. Did they learn the effects of the poison that had been injected?
A. Yes.

Q. What did they learn?
A. How the poison works and its consequences.

Q. If they injected people and the people died within a few moments, what more did they want to know about the poison?
A. In order to find the correct dose, they used a good many inoculation serums on the prisoners, before they were used on the troops.

Q. Why on the troops?
A. If they were good, they were used on the troops.

Q. How could it have been good, if the people died immediately?
A. Some of them recovered. They also tried out the effect on different blood groups, and of strong blood and weak blood. Some of these injections caused ulcers on the chest. These ulcers were then removed, but into pieces and microscoped.

Q. Those persons who recovered, were they then allowed to live?
A. Those people who recovered were given especially good food, and after their recovery a blood test was taken, in order to judge the final effect of the serum.

Q. Before they were injected, did any of them volunteer to be injected?
A. They were not asked. People were just called at the discretion of the doctors.

Q. What discretion did the doctors use?
A. I do not know, because I had no insight into the books of the doctors.

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Q. Out of every 100 prisoners who were operated on, how many would you say were saved and how many killed?
A. Most of the people who were operated upon by Dr POTDLAHA recovered, but on other occasions, Dr POTDLAHA was sent away while the SS doctors operated and in these cases, the people mostly died.

Q. Which SS doctors?
A. Dr HERBST, Dr RACHEL, Dr RICHTER. Dr RICHTER liked especially to operate and dissect the corpses after, in order to see the effect of the poison.

Q. How about Dr WOLTER?
A. Dr WOLTER usually gave the order and then went out.

Q. Did WOLTER know that these doctors were killing people?
A. He was the head doctor, so he must have known it.

Q. Were you present at any of these operations?
A. No, but at the dissections.

Q. How do you know what the purpose of the dissections was?
A. In order to find the cause of death and how death entered.

Q. How do you know that that was the purpose?
A. Because I was present and helped in dissecting. I had to pass the instruments.

Q. Did you hear the doctors talk?
A. Yes, they spoke German.

Q. What did they say?
A. They mentioned the reasons of death, such as, paralysis of the heart, paralysis of the neck, congealing of blood. They also used the names of the poison in Latin.

Q. How could you understand that it was poison, when it was spoken in Latin?
A. Because they were the same names which were on the labels of the capsules which were thrown away by the doctors after application, and I asked one of the doctors and he told me.

Q. Which doctor?
A. The prisoner doctor.

Q. Which one?
A. SCHARELINSKI.

Q. Were you present at the time they took a skull and sliced it in half and preserved it for their experimental purposes?
A. Hauptsturmfuehrer VASICKY, the pharmacist, was very much interested in these matters and made experiments with skulls and brains, and preserved them in methylated spirits. He had containers with methylated spirits. At the dissection, the skull was in any case cut in half. The scalp is severed from the skull which is thus uncovered, then the top of the skull is sawn off and thereby the inside of the head opened to view.

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Q. Had you spoken to him many times before then?
A. Yes, he was a country-man of mine from SALZBURG.

Q. Did you know him before you went to MAUTHAUSEN?
A. No, but I know his parents.

Q. Before you saw him strangle somebody to death at MAUTHAUSEN, had you spoken to him many times?
A. Yes.

Q. Did you see anybody else kill anybody in MAUTHAUSEN?
A. Yes, I remember the block leader FARAUS, who beat to death one of a group of American parachuters who came with their parachutes unter their arms. They had to line up against the wall.

Q. Did you speak to NIEDERMAYER many times after the incident where he strangled the man to death?
A. Yes.

Q. So that there is no question in your mind that the man you heard at the time of the strangulation was NIEDERMAYER?
A. No, I even witnessed the mistreatments through the window.

Q. On this particular occasion, besides hearing NIEDERMAYER's voice, did you also see something through the window?
A. I remember having taken off the corpses, wires which were used for strangling people.

Q. You heard NIEDERMAYER's voice?
A. Yes.

Q. What did he say?
A. "Dog, don't you want to strangle yourself, your time is up anyway, you have got to die".

Q. What else did he say?
A. Then I heard the victim being kicked and beaten. He acted like a mad-man.

Q. Who acted mad?
A. NIEDERMAYER.

Q. How do you know it was NIEDERMAYER who kicked the prisoner?
A. I heard it distinctly, I recognised NIEDERMAYER's tread.

Q. Did you see any part of it?
A. I saw how he beat and kicked people in the corridor on this occasion.

Q. Did you see the way he strangled these people?
A. No, he went out of sight with the victims, but two hours later, this man was dead and I had to go and fetch him.

Q. How many men were the victims on this occasion?
A. Five.

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Q. What was their sickness?
A. Malnutrition and general run-down condition, as well as TB.

Q. How do you know that they were injected?
A. Because I saw it often enough. I saw how they were given a narcotic.

Q. Who did the injections?
A. Dr WOLTER gave the orders, which were executed by SS medics.

Q. Did you see WOLTER give the orders?
A. Yes.

Q. When?
A. 1942.

Q. To whom did he give the order?
A. To Dr Richter.

Q. Who else?
A. To the medics who were on duty. Dr WOLTER said: "It is better that these people who are incurably diseased with TB should die a beautiful death".

Q. Did you then actually see the injections made?
A. Yes. He counted three ribs from the top down and used a long needle for an injection into the heart.

Q. Who counted the three ribs?
A. The doctor or the medic.

Q. How long after the injection was made did it take for the victim to die?
A. Usually one and a half minutes, it was very quick, because the injection was made direct into the heart.

Q. Why were some injected, some shot and some strangled with a rope?
A. I do not know. They wanted to get rid of these people and make room for more.

Q. Were the bodies then burnt?
A. Yes.

Q. Now that you have told us about ZIEREIS and Dr WOLTER, tell us about some of the others.
A. Dr RAGHEL and Dr HERBST liked to operate.

Q. Did they operate to cure people of their sickness?
A. These doctors had to learn how to operate from Dr POTZLAHA.

Q. Were these doctors engaged in curing people or killing people?
A. Dr POTZLAHA tried his utmost to save people and did save the lives of many. Other doctors learned from him and they experimented on other prisoners.

Q. While they experimented on other prisoners, were they interested in saving them?
A. No, mostly to kill.

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USA 795 (3845-PS)

Filed Sept 12, 1946
Int'l Mil Trib
Nuremberg
Germany

EXHIBIT-USA

795

(3845-PS)

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